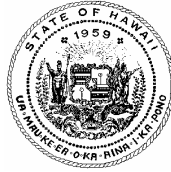


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**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT**  
235 S. BERETANIA STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2437

August 24, 2005

Dear State Social Worker/Human Services Professional:

The Department of Human Resources Development conducted a Social Worker classification study, and as a result, in 2004, established the Social Worker/Human Services Professional series. Various bills regarding the Social Worker Classification Study were introduced in the 2005 Legislative Session, and on July 12, 2005, House Bill No. 1146, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, was enacted into law as Act 238. In addition, the Legislature adopted House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) No. 265.

Act 238 and H.C.R. No. 265, SLH 2005, included the following provisions:

- Two separate series shall be maintained (i.e., Social Worker series and Human Services Professional series). The Social Worker series will require persons to possess a social work degree. The Human Services Professional series will not require a social work degree.
- Beginning July 1, 2005, persons hired as Social Workers must possess a social work degree.
- All employees who were reallocated from the Social Worker series to the Social Worker/Human Services Professional series in May 2004, shall be reallocated to the revised Social Worker series prior to January 2006.
- The Department of Human Resources Development shall work with the parties identified in Act 238 and H.C.R. No. 265 to develop a transition plan for the above-mentioned employees who do not have social work degrees. Those employees who do not have a social work degree by July 1, 2010, will be reallocated to the Human Services Professional series.

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The Department of Human Resources Development has been meeting with the Departments of Human Services, Health, Education and Public Safety, the Hawaii Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, Hawaii Government Employees' Association and the local schools of social work to develop plans to address the requirements indicated above. We are also seeking guidance from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs with regard to what job titles State Social Workers and Human Services Professionals may use.

If you were hired as a Social Worker and your position was reallocated to the Social Worker/Human Services Professional series in May 2004, your position will be reallocated to the revised Social Worker series sometime before the end of this year.

If you were hired as a Social Worker/Human Services Professional after May 16, 2004, and you possess a social work degree, your position will be reallocated to the revised Social Worker series. (Please provide verification of your social work degree; e.g., diploma, letter or transcript from the college/university you graduated from, to your personnel office by October 31, 2005.) If you do not possess a social work degree, or if you do not provide acceptable verification of your social work degree, your position will be allocated to the revised Human Services Professional series.

Please note that neither of these personnel transactions will affect your compensation and benefits. We will continue to keep you informed as our plans are finalized.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Very truly yours,



Marie C. Laderna  
Interim Director