

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 9, 2006

RE: H.B. No. 2401  
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2006  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 2401  
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to ensure the health and safety  
of all patients by:

- (1) Prohibiting medical health insurers from excluding  
coverage for injuries sustained by insured persons as a  
result of intoxication from alcohol or narcotics; and
- (2) Appropriating funds to establish a pilot "Screening,  
Briefing, Intervention, Referral, and Treatment" program  
in Hawaii.

The Office of the Lieutenant Governor, Department of Commerce  
and Consumer Affairs, Department of Health, Department of Human  
Services, Hawaii Psychiatric Medical Association, Mothers Against  
Drunk Driving Hawaii, Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition, and two  
concerned individuals testified in support of this measure.  
Kaiser Permanente supported the intent of this measure. The  
American Family Life Assurance Company of Columbus offered  
comments.



Your Committee notes that a concern was raised regarding why health insurance coverage can be obtained for a person who was driving while under the influence, but cannot be obtained if a person shows up at the workplace under the influence. Your Committee accordingly notes that the Committee on Labor & Public Employment may need to review the provisions of this bill.

Your Committee has amended this bill by:

- (1) Designating the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine as the expending agency for the appropriated funds; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2401, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2401, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Health,

  
DENNIS A. ARAKAKI, Chair



