

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 16, 2006

RE: S.B. No. 2364
S.D. 2
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 S.B. No. 2364, S.D. 2, 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 the Screening, Briefing, Intervention, Referral, and Treatment (SBIRT) program in the State of Hawaii.

The Office of the Lieutenant Governor, Department of the Attorney General, Department of Human Services, Office of Youth Services, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Hawaii Chapter, Hawaii Psychiatric Medical Association, Hawaii Disability Rights Center, Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition, and a concerned individual supported this bill. The Department of Health and the University of Hawaii supported the intent of this measure. The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs supported this bill with amendments. A concerned individual provided comments.

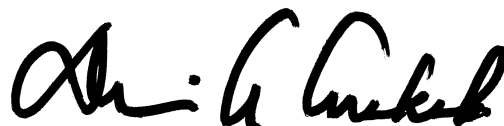


Your Committee has amended this bill by:

- (1) Removing the provisions specifying that the two pilot project sites be located at:
 - (A) A major urban trauma center in Honolulu; and
 - (B) A Neighbor Island acute care hospital that:
 - (i) Has a high volume of emergency department trauma traffic;
 - (ii) Has a high percentage of substance use co-morbidity in the emergency department population; and
 - (iii) Is in close proximity to medical or allied medical educational facilities at or above the community college level;
- (2) Inserting an appropriation of \$1,883,987 to be used for operating costs, including positions and implementation of the SBIRT program; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive changes 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 S.B. No. 2364, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2364, S.D. 2, 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



