

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 17, 2006

RE: S.B. No. 3283
S.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. 3283, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH CARE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate an unspecified amount to develop and maintain a statewide comprehensive health care workforce map and database.

The State Health Planning and Development Agency, the Hawaii Medical Association, the Hawaii Medical Service Association, and an individual physician testified in support of the measure.

Your Committee finds that there is a growing shortage of healthcare professionals in Hawaii. As the general population ages, so does the health care workforce, which exacerbates the growing shortage of healthcare professionals. Also, low reimbursement rates, challenging work conditions, medical malpractice insurance costs, and other issues continue to hamper the recruitment and retention of healthcare professionals.

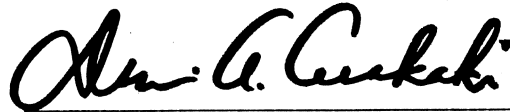
This measure addresses these concerns by providing the means for the State Health Planning and Development Agency to develop and maintain a statewide comprehensive healthcare workforce map and database to:



- (1) Compile and analyze existing data on healthcare professionals in the State;
- (2) Develop a plan to collect and systematically update this data; and
- (3) Project and develop a plan to meet future healthcare workforce needs.

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. 3283, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Second Reading 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



