

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR - 7 2006

RE: H.B. No. 2309

Honorable Robert Bunda
President of the Senate
Twenty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2006
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 2309 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to improve the efficiency of the operations of the Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund.

Specifically, this bill requires each employee-beneficiary and the employee-beneficiary's spouse who receive reimbursement from the Fund for Medicare part B premiums after July 1, 2006, to designate a financial institution account for direct deposits of reimbursements. The bill also makes nonsubstantive statutory amendments for the purposes of clarification and consistency.

Your Committee believes that this bill will reduce costs and administrative fees incurred by the Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund, thus saving taxpayer dollars, and also make the receipt of reimbursements by employee-beneficiaries faster, safer, and more efficient.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2309, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,



BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, Chair



**The Senate
Twenty-Third Legislature
State of Hawaii**

**Record of Votes of the
Committee on Ways and Means
(Bills and Resolutions)**

Measure:* HB 2309	Committee Referral: LBR, WAM	Date: 3/31/06		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (2312) <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (2311) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold (2310) <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit (2313)				
Members	Ayes	Ayes(WR)	Nays	Excused
TANIGUCHI, Brian T. (C)	/			
TSUTSUI, Shan S. (VC)	/			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani				/
ESPERO, Will	/			
FUKUNAGA, Carol				/
HOOSER, Gary L.	/			
INOUE, Lorraine R.	/			
KANNO, Brian	/			
KIM, Donna Mercado	/			
KOKUBUN, Russell S.	/			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	/			
SAKAMOTO, Norman	/			
HEMMINGS, Fred	/			
SLOM, Sam	/			
TRIMBLE, Gordon				/
TOTAL	12	0	0	3
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Do not list more than one measure per Record of Votes.