

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 20 2006

RE: H.B. No. 3126

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 3126  
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RAPID IDENTIFICATION  
DOCUMENTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to delete the requirement, for  
a rapid identification document, that a physician certify that the  
patient is terminally ill, and replaces the "comfort care only"  
bracelet or necklace with a written certification.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Department of Health, the Healthcare Association of  
Hawaii, Kokua Mau, the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs,  
and seven individuals. Your Committee received testimony in  
opposition from the Hawaii Right to Life-Maui Chapter.

Your Committee finds that the current "Comfort Care Only"  
bracelet system has proven to be ineffective in allowing health  
care providers to honor the wishes of a patient. A rapid  
identification document system allows patients to clearly  
communicate their health care wishes without ambiguity, confusion,  
or delay.

Your Committee further finds that allowing the patient's  
guardian, agent, or surrogate to direct health care providers to  
administer comfort care only in an emergency situation is  
necessary to conform with existing law regarding lawfully



appointed guardians, agents, or surrogates acting on behalf of incapacitated patients.

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. 3126, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs.

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

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



The Senate  
Twenty-Third Legislature  
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes of the  
Committee on Health  
(Bills and Resolutions)

|   |  |                         |          |          |
|---|--|-------------------------|----------|----------|
| Measure:*<br><i>HB 3126</i>   | Committee Referral:<br><i>HTH, JHW</i> | Date:<br><i>3/13/06</i> |          |          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.<br>If so, then the previous decision was to: _____   |  |                         |          |          |
| The Recommendation is to:<br><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  |
| BAKER, Rosalyn H. (C)   | ✓                                      |                         |          |          |
| CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne (VC)  | ✓                                      |                         |          |          |
| HANABUSA, Colleen   |  |                         |          | ✓        |
| TSUTSUI, Shan S.  | ✓                                      |                         |          |          |
| WHALEN, Paul  |  |                         |          | ✓        |
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| TOTAL   | <i>3</i>                               | <i>0</i>                | <i>0</i> | <i>✓</i> |
| Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted  |  |                         |          |          |
| Chair's or Designee's Signature:<br><i>Suzanne Chun Oakland</i>   |  |                         |          |          |
| Distribution:              Original      Yellow      Pink      Goldenrod<br>File with Committee Report      Clerk's Office      Drafting Agency      Committee File Copy  |  |                         |          |          |

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