

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 17

, 2006

RE: S.B. No. 2227
S.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Health and Media, Arts, Science, and Technology, to which was referred S.B. No. 2227 entitled:

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

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish telehealth services as reimbursable services.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health with comments, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, the Office of the Insurance Commissioner, Hawaii Primary Care Association, Hawaii Medical Service Association, Hawaii Primary Care Association, and Hawaii Pacific Health.

Your Committees find that telehealth services are necessary to circumvent the geographic barriers that prevent ready access to health care for all residents of Hawaii. Expanding the use of technology and allowing reimbursement for telehealth services will improve the level of health care that is provided and be cost-efficient for patients and health care providers.

Your Committees have amended this measure by adopting the recommendations of the Department of Health by broadening the scope of reimbursable telehealth services to include health care provider-patient relationships, as opposed to just physician-patient relationships.



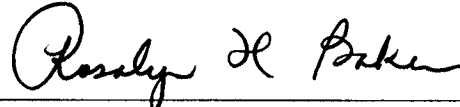
Your Committees further amended this measure by adopting the recommendations from Hawaii Pacific Health to ensure that telehealth services can be performed in an emergency room/ trauma care situation by allowing the establishment of a health care provider-patient relationship through a telehealth mechanism when one does not already exist.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Health and Media, Arts, Science, and Technology that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2227, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2227, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Housing.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Health and Media,
Arts, Science, and Technology,



CAROL FUKUNAGA, Chair



ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Third Legislature
State of Hawaii

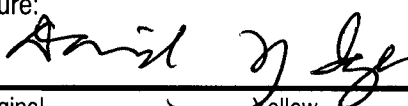
Record of Votes of the
Committee on Health
(Bills and Resolutions)

Measure:* <i>SB 2227</i>	Committee Referral: <i>HTH/MAT, CPH</i>	Date: <i>2/10/06</i>		
<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 type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (2312) <input checked="" 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				✓
TOTAL	<i>3</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>2</i>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>Suzanne Chun Oakland</i>				
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.

The Senate
 Twenty-Third Legislature
 State of Hawaii

Record of Votes of the
 Committee on Media, Arts, Science and Technology
 (Bills and Resolutions)

Measure:* SB 2227	Committee Referral: HHA/MAT, CPA	Date: 2/14/2006		
<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 type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (2312) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (2311) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold (2310) <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit (2313)				
Members	Ayes	Ayes(WR)	Nays	Excused
FUKUNAGA, Carol (C)	✓			
IGE, David Y. (VC)	✓			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani				✓
IHARA, Jr., Les				✓
HOGUE, Bob	✓			
TOTAL	3			2
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.