

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR - 3 2006

RE: S.B. No. 2297  
S.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Housing,  
to which was referred S.B. No. 2297 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELORS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to clarify that professional  
mental health counseling services shall be based on specialized  
education, training, and experience.

Testimony in support of the measure was submitted by the  
Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Kaiser Permanente,  
Hawaii Rehabilitation Counseling Association, Sestak  
Rehabilitation Services, the Alliance for Professional Counselor  
Licensure, and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that this measure will:

- (1) Clarify that a mental health counselor can render  
professional counseling services;
- (2) Clarify that the provisions of this measure do not  
supersede the regulation of "registered rehabilitation  
specialists" by the Department of Labor and Industrial  
Relations;
- (3) Clarify that the intern and post-graduate practicum  
experience must be in mental health counseling; and

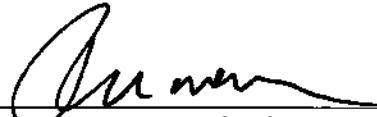


- (4) Specify that the post-graduate experience must be completed in not less than two years nor more than four years.

Your Committee has made technical, nonsubstantive amendments for purposes of correct drafting style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2297, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2297, S.D. 1.

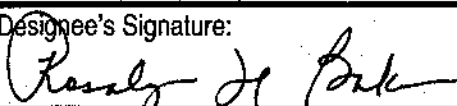
Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Commerce, Consumer  
Protection, and Housing,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
RON MENOR, Chair



The Senate  
Twenty-Third Legislature  
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes of the  
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Housing  
(Bills and Resolutions)

Measure:* <b>SB 2297</b>	Committee Referral: <b>HTH, CPH</b>	Date: <b>3-1-06</b>		
<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
MENOR, Ron (C)	✓			
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (VC)	✓			
ESPERO, Will	✓			
IGE, David Y.	✓			
SAKAMOTO, Norman				✓
HOGUE, Bob	✓			
TOTAL				
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.