

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb. 15

, 2006

RE: S.B. No. 2297

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 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.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Hawaii
Rehabilitation Counseling Association, Sestak Rehabilitation
Services, Alliance for Professional Counselor Licensure, Kaiser
Permanente, and eleven individuals. Your Committee received
testimony in opposition to the measure from one individual.

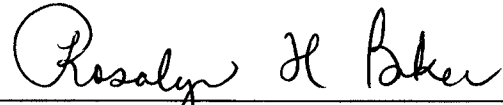
Your Committee finds that mental health services must be
provided by qualified mental health counselors. The education,
training, and experience that mental health counselors acquire
qualifies them to serve individuals effectively within the scope
of their expertise. This measure will ensure that individuals who
need counseling services have access to appropriate mental health
care.

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. 2297, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be



referred to the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Housing.

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:* <i>SB 2297</i>	Committee Referral: <i>HTH, CPH</i>	Date: <i>2/6/06</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 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				✓
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: <div style="text-align:center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">Suzanne Chun Oakland</div>				
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.