

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb. 16, 2006

RE: S.B. No. 2729
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 Human Services, to which was referred S.B. No. 2729 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DENTISTS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to ensure underserved communities receive dental services by establishing a student loan repayment program as an incentive for dentists who serve these communities.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health, the Department of Human Services, Hawaii Dental Association, Hawaii Primary Care Association, Kokua Council, Kokua Kalihi Valley, and one individual.

Your Committees find that a severe shortage of dental services exists in the rural and underserved communities of Hawaii. Dental health is essential to an individual's overall health and well-being. Your Committees further find that an incentive is needed to encourage more dentists to provide services to the underserved communities and that a student loan repayment program will maximize the availability of quality dental care.

Your Committees amended this measure by adopting the Department of Human Services' recommendation to address the fact that dental services for all Medicaid recipients, not just Med-QUEST recipients, are paid for on a fee-for-service basis.



Additionally, your Committees want to ensure that dentists who receive the loan repayment benefit serve low income or uninsured clients, and have amended the bill to strengthen those provisions.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Health and Human Services that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2729, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2729, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Health and Human
Services,

Suzanne Chun Oakland
SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, Chair

Rosalyn H Baker
ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Third Legislature
State of Hawaii

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

| | | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Measure:* SB 2729 | Committee Referral: HTH/HMS, WAM | Date: 2/8/06 | | |
| <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 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 | ✓ | | | |
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| TOTAL | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 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> | | | | |
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*Do not list more than one measure per Record of Votes.

