

Honolulu, Hawaii

FCB 17

, 2006

RE: S.B. No. 3020
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 Labor and Intergovernmental Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 3020 entitled:

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

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to allow part-time, temporary, and seasonal or casual employees of the State, who do not already have health insurance coverage, to be eligible for health insurance benefits under the Hawaii employer-union health benefits trust.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by the Hawaii State Teachers Association and the ILWU Local 142. Testimony in opposition to this measure was submitted by the Department of Budget and Finance. Comments on this measure were also submitted by the Department of the Attorney General, the Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund (EUTF), and the Hawaii Uninsured Project.

Your Committees find that, according to the University of Hawaii Social Science Research Institute, approximately 6,000 civilian government employees in Hawaii are without health insurance. Many of these public employees are without health insurance due to their employment status as part-time or temporary employees. Under the current law, the state and county governments are exempt from the Prepaid Health Care Act. As a result, the State or a county need not provide health insurance coverage to its temporary or part-time employees. Part-time or



temporary public employees are also specifically excluded from coverage under the EUTF.

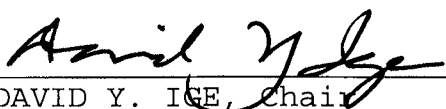
Your Committees further find that current labor shortages and the need for individuals who are specially trained has necessitated the utilization of an increased number of 89-day hires, as well as part-time employees, leaving a number of public employees without health insurance coverage. Your Committees believe that in an attempt to address the problem of the increasing number of uninsured individuals in the State, the State and counties should lead by example by offering health insurance benefits to their temporary and part-time employees.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the definition of "part-time, temporary, and seasonal or casual employee" to clarify that the definition includes both employees who work for less than a three-month period and employees who work less than twenty hours per week, rather than those who do both; and
- (2) Changing the effective date of the Act to July 1, 2050, to allow further discussion on this matter until a time certain can be determined as to when the EUTF can be prepared to implement the law.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Labor and Intergovernmental Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 3020, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 3020, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Labor and
Intergovernmental Affairs,



DAVID Y. IGE, Chair




BRIAN KANNO, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Third Legislature
State of Hawaii

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

Measure:* SB 3020	Committee Referral: LBR / IGA, WAM	Date: 2-10-06		
<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
KANNO, Brian (C)	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les (VC)	✓			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.				✓
SLOM, Sam			✓	
TOTAL	2	0	1	1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> Original File with Committee Report Yellow Clerk's Office Pink Drafting Agency Goldenrod Committee File Copy </div>				

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

