

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

3574

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 11 2006

RE: S.C.R. No. 117
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 Health, to which was referred S.C.R.
No. 117 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO EVALUATE AND RECOMMEND
POSSIBLE STATUTORY AND PUBLIC POLICY CHANGES TO DECREASE THE
CENSUS AT HAWAII STATE HOSPITAL AND ENHANCE COMMUNITY-BASED
HEALTH SERVICES FOR FORENSIC PATIENTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of
Health to convene a task force to evaluate and recommend possible
statutory and public policy changes to decrease the census at
Hawaii State Hospital and enhance community-based health services
for forensic patients.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Hawaii Disability Rights Center, the Hawaii Government
Employees Association, the Hawaii Psychiatric Medical Association,
ILWU Local 142, the National Association of Social Workers, Mental
Health Kokua, and two individuals. The Legislative Reference
Bureau submitted comments in response to this measure. Your
Committee received testimony in opposition to the measure from the
Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that a task force needs to be
established to evaluate procedural, statutory, and policy changes
that may be necessary to effectuate a decreased population at the
Hawaii State Hospital and to improve the level of supervision,

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monitoring, or treatment necessary to ensure the safety of individuals with mental illness and the public.

Your Committee has amended this measure by expanding the evaluation conducted by the task force to include procedural changes, as well as statutory and public policy changes.

Your Committee has also amended this measure in response to the testimony submitted by the Department of Health by:

- (1) Eliminating the statistical and quality of care language;
- (2) Requesting that the monthly meetings begin in August of 2006 and go through November 2007; and
- (3) Changing the report to the 2007 session to a progress report and extending the final reporting date to the Regular Session of 2008.

Your Committee has additionally amended this measure by specifying that the Department of Health, in conjunction with the Department of the Attorney General, is requested to provide the administrative and staff support necessary to fulfill the purpose and duties of the task force.


Your Committee has further amended this measure by redefining the issues the task force is requested to consider in its evaluation, and by including forensic specialists and a representative from the Prosecutor's office, the Public Safety Division, and other organizations as identified by the co-chairs, to serve on the task force or to participate on an ad hoc basis.

Last, your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, non-substantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 117, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 117, S.D. 1.



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:* SCR 117	Committee Referral: HTH	Date: 3/29/06		
<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	✓			
TOTAL	3	0	0	2
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution	Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency	Goldenrod Committee File Copy

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