

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR - 5 2006

RE: S.C.R. No. 19

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.C.R. No. 19 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO
ASSESS THE SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL EFFECTS OF REQUIRING HEALTH
INSURERS TO OFFER COVERAGE FOR SURVIVORS OF BRAIN INJURIES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to request that the auditor
assess the social and financial effects of mandating health
insurance coverage for survivors of brain injuries.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by the
Hawaii Disability Rights Center and a traumatic brain injury
survivor. Comments were submitted by the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that survivors of traumatic brain
injuries can lead full lives but may face a long rehabilitation
process that may not be covered by health benefit plans. Your
Committee further finds that these survivors will be substantially
assisted by mandatory health insurance coverage. An Auditor's
study is the next step in determining whether this type of
coverage is appropriate.

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 concurs with the intent
and purpose of S.C.R. No. 19 and recommends that it be referred to
the Committee on Ways and Means.



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



RON MENOR, Chair



