

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 219

Honolulu, Hawaii  
Feb 9, 2007

RE: H.B. No. 1118

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2007  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 1118  
entitled:

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

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to protect the health of  
residents of the State by preventing unnecessary deaths from  
prostate cancer and colon cancer.

Specifically, this bill mandates the provision of health  
coverage for prostate cancer and colorectal cancer in the State by  
all health and accident insurers, mutual benefit societies that  
offer hospital and medical health plans, and health maintenance  
organizations.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs and two individual  
Hawaiian civic clubs. Kaiser Permanente submitted testimony in  
opposition to this measure, while the Insurance Commissioner,  
HMSA, and the American Cancer Society submitted comments.

Your Committee finds that colorectal cancer is the second  
leading cause of death among native Hawaiians and the second  
leading cause of cancer death in the United States. However,  
colorectal cancer screening can provide detection of precancerous  
polyps and early carcinomas resulting in either less extensive  
surgery or only simple colonoscopic extraction in many cases so



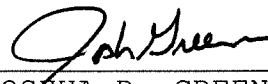
that no person diagnosed with these lesions need suffer and die from colon cancer.

Your Committee also finds that the likelihood of developing prostate cancer in men is one in six, and prostate cancer is the third leading cause of cancer death in native Hawaiians and a leading cause of cancer death nationwide. However, the use of prostate cancer screening can result in early detection and treatment of prostate cancer.

Your Committee believes that the health coverage for prostate cancer and colorectal cancer screening required by this bill will not only save lives but also prove to be cost-effective by preventing the need for more extensive and expensive medical procedures.

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 H.B. No. 1118 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Health,



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JOSHUA B. GREEN, M.D., Chair



