

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

717

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 16, 2007

RE: H.B. No. 1477
H.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Higher Education, to which was referred
H.B. No. 1477 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RURAL PRIMARY HEALTH CARE
TRAINING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to improve healthcare access for
the people of Hawaii by establishing and appropriating funds for a
statewide rural training model to produce a robust, well-trained
primary healthcare workforce and place family physicians in rural
areas.

The Department of Family Medicine and Community Health
(DFMCH) of the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of
Medicine (JABSOM), mayor of the County of Hawaii, Hawaii Health
Systems Corporation (HHSC), East Hawaii Region of HHSC, Hawaii
Primary Care Association, and many concerned individuals testified
in support of this bill. The Department of Health (DOH), JABSOM,
and a concerned individual supported the intent of this measure.

Your Committee has amended this bill by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation for the development of a
statewide rural training model as follows:
 - (A) Clarifying that the funds appropriated will go
toward the development of a statewide rural primary

HB1477 HD1 HSCR HED HMS 2007-2385

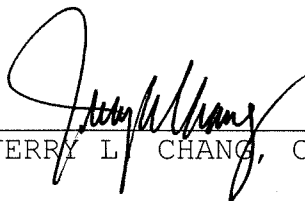


healthcare training program to provide family physicians to rural areas and improve healthcare access for the people of Hawaii;

- (B) Changing the appropriation amount to \$1, to encourage further discussion; and
 - (C) Changing the expending agency from DOH to JABSOM;
- (2) Inserting an appropriation to support and expand the Family Medicine Residency Program of DFMCH to provide rural primary healthcare services;
 - (3) Clarifying the purpose language to reflect the addition of this appropriation; and
 - (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1477, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to the Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1477, H.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Higher Education,



JERRY L. CHANG, Chair



