

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 405

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 15, 2007

RE: H.B. No. 1721

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. 1721
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO VIOLENCE AGAINST EMERGENCY
MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to protect emergency medical
services personnel from harm by adding the commission of violence
or the threat of violence against emergency medical services
personnel to the offenses of assault in the second degree and
terroristic threatening in the first degree.

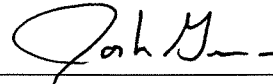
The Healthcare Association of Hawaii and several concerned
individuals testified in support of this bill.

Your Committee recognizes that the provision of emergency
medical service involves characteristics of both public safety and
the medical profession and therefore emergency medical services
personnel face a high level of risk in the line of duty. Other
public servants such as police, fire, and bus employees have
already been afforded a heightened class of protection to deter
violence against them. Your Committee believes that emergency
medical services personnel are entitled to the same level of
protection for putting their lives at risk to serve the community.



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. 1721 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

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



JOSHUA B. GREEN, M.D., Chair



