

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1334

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 21, 2007

RE: S.B. No. 1802

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 S.B. No. 1802
entitled:

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

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to enable health care
providers to share necessary and relevant information from mental
health records while preserving a patient's dignity and privacy.

Specifically, this measure establishes an exception to the
confidentiality of mental health records to allow a health care
provider to disclose information to another health care provider
for the purposes of the patient's continued care or treatment.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Hawaii Association of Health Plans, Hawaii Management
Alliance Association, Hawaii Medical Association, Hawaii Pacific
Health, Hawaii Primary Care Association, Hawaii Psychiatric
Medical Association, Healthcare Association of Hawaii, Kahi Mohala
Behavioral Health, Kaiser Permanente, National Alliance on Mental
Health Oahu, and the Queen's Medical Center.

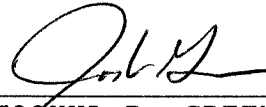
Currently, necessary mental health services may be delayed or
denied because mental health record information cannot be shared
between health care providers. Your Committee finds that this
narrow exception to the confidentiality of mental health records
will assist patients to receive timely treatment and services
without diminishing patient rights.

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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 S.B. No. 1802 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



