

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 43

Honolulu, Hawaii  
Feb 5, 2007

RE: H.B. No. 56  
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 Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 56  
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to advance initiatives to provide  
health care insurance for all Hawaii residents by establishing the  
Hawaii Health Commission (Commission) to develop a health plan  
allowing all individuals in the state health care coverage. The  
Commission will specify:

- (1) Eligibility for the health plan;
- (2) All reimbursable services under the plan;
- (3) All approved providers of services under the plan;
- (4) A method to evaluate the health care provided under and  
the cost-effectiveness of all aspects of the plan; and
- (5) A budget for the plan.

The National Association of Social Workers - Hawaii Chapter,  
National Alliance on Mental Illness Oahu, Kokua Council, and  
several concerned individuals supported this bill. A concerned  
individual supported this measure with amendments. The Hawaii  
Government Employees Association supported the intent of this

HB56 HD1 HSCR HLT HMS 2007-1610



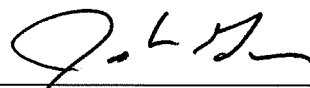
bill. The Hawaii Medical Association opposed this measure. The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and concerned individuals submitted comments on this bill.

Your Committee has amended this bill by:

- (1) Placing the Commission within the Department of Budget and Finance for administrative purposes;
- (2) Increasing the number of Commission members from five to nine;
- (3) Providing that the Speaker of the House and President of the Senate will each submit a list of three nominees to be appointed as members of the Commission;
- (4) Deleting term limits for the Commission members;
- (5) Clarifying that a minimum of five members constitutes a quorum to take action by the Commission;
- (6) Authorizing the Commission to seek waivers of federal law, rule, or regulation;
- (7) Deleting the June 30, 2010, sunset date; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive changes for clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 56, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 56, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

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



JOSHUA B. GREEN, M.D., Chair



