

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 29, 2008

RE: H.B. No. 7
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2008
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Finance, to which was referred H.B. No. 7
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE I-SAVERX PRESCRIPTION DRUG
PROGRAM,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to increase access to affordable
prescription drugs by requiring the Governor, no later than
January 1, 2008, to enter into a written agreement that allows
Hawaii residents to participate in the I-SaveRx prescription drug
program (Program) by July 1, 2008.

ILWU Local 142, Kokua Council, Policy Advisory Board for
Elder Affairs, and the Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans
supported this bill. The Department of Human Services and
Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America opposed this
measure. The Attorney General submitted comments.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Governor to enter into the written
agreement no later than January 1, 2009, instead of
January 1, 2008, and requiring that the Program be
available to Hawaii residents by July 1, 2009, instead
of July 1, 2008; and



- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for style, clarity, and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 7, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 7, H.D. 1.

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



MARCUS R. OSHIRO, Chair



