

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 20, 2008

RE: S.B. No. 2159  
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 Health, to which was referred S.B. No. 2159  
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PROFESSIONS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to protect consumers of mental health services by continuing the regulation of mental health counselors. Specifically, this bill repeals the sunset date of the licensing program for mental health counselors in Chapter 453D, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

The Office of the Auditor, Kaiser Permanente, Hawaii Rehabilitation Counseling Association, Alliance for Professional Counselor Licensure, and many concerned individuals supported this bill.

Your Committee has amended this bill by:

- (1) Adding licensed mental health counselors to the list of practitioners who may provide mental health services that must be covered under health insurance policies under chapter 431M, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and
- (2) 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 S.B. No. 2159, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2159, 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,

  

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JOSHUA B. GREEN, M.D., Chair



State of Hawaii  
House of Representatives  
The Twenty-fourth Legislature

HSCP 12605-08

**Record of Votes of the Committee on Health**

<b>Bill/Resolution No.:</b> SB 2159	<b>Committee Referral:</b> HLT, CPC	<b>Date:</b> 3-14-2008		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
<b>The recommendation is to:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
<b>HLT Members</b>	<b>Ayes</b>	<b>Ayes (WR)</b>	<b>Nays</b>	<b>Excused</b>
1. GREEN, Josh, M.D. (C)	✓			
2. MIZUNO, John (VC)	✓			
3. AWANA, Karen Leinani				✓
4. BELATTI, Della Au				✓
5. BERTRAM, Joe, III	✓			
6. CABANILLA, Rida T.R.				✓
7. RHOADS, Karl	✓			
8. SHIMABUKURO, Maile S. L.				✓
9. TOKIOKA, James Kunane	✓			
10. WARD, Gene, Ph.D.	✓			
<b>TOTAL (10)</b>	6			4
<b>The recommendation is:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
<b>Vice Chair's or designee's signature:</b>				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original (White) – Committee    Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office				