

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1258 -08

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 20, 2008

RE: S.B. No. 2530
S.D. 2
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 Consumer Protection & Commerce, to which
was referred S.B. No. 2530, S.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH INSURANCE SUPPORT FOR
SMALL BUSINESS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to increase access to health
insurance by requiring group health insurers to offer small group
health plans to certain self-employed individuals located in the
group health insurer's service areas, subject to the Insurance
Commissioner's ability to exempt insurers who are unable to
adequately deliver these services given their existing
obligations.

This bill also places certain restrictions on periods of
enrollment and reenrollment in these group health plans.

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA)
testified in support of this bill. The Chamber of Commerce of
Hawaii, Hawaii Association of REALTORS, Kaiser Permanente, and
Hawaii Medical Service Association supported the intent of this
measure.

Your Committee has amended this bill by:

SB2530 HD1 HSCR CPC HMS 2008-3192



- (1) Clarifying that this measure applies to self-employed individuals whose businesses are registered, not licensed, by DCCA; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2530, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to the Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2530, S.D. 2, H.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Consumer
Protection & Commerce,



ROBERT N. HERKES, Chair



