

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 08 2007

RE: S.B. No. 1610

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2007  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred S.B. No. 1610  
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO GENERAL EXCISE TAX,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to reduce health care costs  
for private hospitals and their patients.

The measure accomplishes this purpose by providing a general  
excise tax exemption to private hospitals that have an annual  
patient population consisting of sixty per cent or more of  
individuals who are uninsured, or Medicaid or Medicare recipients.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from one individual.

Your Committee finds that health care costs are increasing  
more rapidly than the cost of living. In addition, many private  
hospitals care for patients who do not have insurance, or who are  
Medicaid or Medicare recipients. This results in many unpaid or  
underpaid health care bills that hospitals often absorb.

Your Committee anticipates that this measure will have a  
fiscal impact on the State's general fund; however, a statement to  
this effect was not submitted by the Department of Taxation or any  
other state agency.

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. 1610 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Economic Development and Taxation.


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

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DAVID Y. IGE, Chair



The Senate  
Twenty-Fourth Legislature  
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes  
Committee on Health  
HTH

Bill / Resolution No.:* SE 1610	Committee Referral: HTH, EDT, WAM	Date: 2/2/07		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
IGE, David Y. (C)	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol (VC)	✓			
BAKER, Rosalyn H.		✓		
MENOR, Ron	✓			
WHALEN, Paul				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution:            Original            Yellow            Pink File with Committee Report            Clerk's Office            Drafting Agency				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes