

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

64

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 08 2007

RE: S.B. No. 1686
S.D. 1

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. 1686
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE ANTARA MEDICAL TRUST
FUND,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to provide for the improvement
of health care services and treatments by supporting medical
research for the early detection of hepatitis.

Specifically, the measure establishes the Antara Medical
Trust Fund, the moneys from which will be expended for FDA
approved laboratories in Hawaii to develop commercially marketable
tests for the early detection of hepatitis. The measure also
offers a tax credit as an incentive to taxpayer's who contribute
to the Antara Medical Trust Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from Antara Biosciences Inc. and Hawaii Citizens for Better
Health.

Your Committee finds that hepatitis is a serious health care
problem in our community. Low income individuals are at an
increased risk of contracting hepatitis. Your Committee further
finds that promoting medical research for in vitro diagnostic
testing for hepatitis will help to decrease the serious
complications those infected with the disease endure and prevent
the further spread of the disease.

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In addition, your Committee believes that establishing the Antara Medical Trust Fund will further benefit Hawaii by creating more biotech jobs within the State and by providing funding for health care services for low income individuals and residents living in rural areas of the State.

Your Committee amended this measure by including a technical amendment that requires a claim for this tax credit to be filed on or before the end of the twelfth month following the close of the taxable year for which the credits may be claimed.

Your Committee anticipates that this measure will have a fiscal impact on the 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. 1686, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1686, S.D. 1, 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.:* SB 1686	Committee Referral: HTH, EDT, WAM	Date: <i>2/2/07</i>
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The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
 If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312
 Pass, with amendments 2311
 Hold 2310
 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
IGE, David Y. (C)	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol (VC)	✓			
BAKER, Rosalyn H.	✓			
MENOR, Ron	✓			
WHALEN, Paul				✓
TOTAL	4			1

Recommendation:
 Adopted
 Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:


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