

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

509

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 16 2007

RE: S.B. No. 1728
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. 1728
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO A TWO-YEAR HEPATITIS C
DEMONSTRATION PROJECT,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to provide funding for a
two-year demonstration project at the Waikiki Health Center and
the West Hawaii Community Health Center, that includes hepatitis C
testing, case management, and treatment.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Drug Policy Action Group; Philippine Nurses Association-
Hawaii; United Filipino Council of Hawaii; Nursing, Advocates &
Mentors, Inc.; Filipino Coalition for Solidarity; Oahu Filipino
Community Council; Asian American Network for Cancer Awareness
Research and Training; Waikiki Health Center; Hepatitis
Prevention, Education, Treatment & Support Network of Hawai'i;
Hawaii Disability Rights Center; and seven individuals. Comments
were received from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii has the highest rate of
liver cancer in the United States due to the high rate of chronic
viral hepatitis in our State. There are over fifteen thousand
people that have tested positive for hepatitis C in Hawaii.
Hepatitis C is also the leading cause of liver transplant in the
United States. Many people who are infected with this silent

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epidemic wait until they feel ill before being tested, when it can be more difficult, extremely expensive, or may even be too late to be treated.

Your Committee further finds that testing, early medical follow-up, and treatment are needed to save lives. Proactive public health intervention is needed to reduce costs to our public health system instead of the high costs that can occur without proactive public health intervention.

Your Committee has amended this measure by deleting the specific amount appropriated. Your Committee recommends to the Committee on Ways and Means that the original appropriation amount of \$120,000 be restored.

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. 1728, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1728, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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 1728	Committee Referral: HTH, WAM	Date: 2/14/07		
<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 type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" 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	✓			
TOTAL	5			
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