

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 452

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 16 2007

RE: S.B. No. 1739  
S.D. 1

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

Madam:

Your Committees on Health and Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Affordable Housing, to which was referred S.B. No. 1739 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH INSURANCE,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to prevent deaths caused by colorectal cancer and to increase public awareness about the importance of colorectal cancer screening by colonoscopy.

Specifically, this measure requires health insurance policies to cover screening for colorectal cancer by colonoscopy every ten years, beginning at age fifty.

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Hawaii Medical Service Association, and American Family Life Assurance Company submitted comments on this measure. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from Kaiser Permanente, and Aloha Care.

Your Committees find that colorectal cancer is the second leading cancer killer in the United States in individuals age fifty and older. Hawaii has the highest rates of colorectal cancer in the nation. Your Committees further find that it is also one of the most preventable types of cancer. Regular screening tests can find precancerous colorectal polyps so they can be removed before they turn into cancer.



Your Committees find that requiring colorectal screening by colonoscopy is not appropriate for certain types of supplementary health insurance, such as limited benefit insurance policies.

Accordingly, your Committees amended this measure by removing limited benefit insurance policies from the requirement to cover colonoscopies for colorectal cancer screening, and placed the new provision for accident and health insurance in the more appropriate section 431:10A-116, Hawaii Revised Statutes, which provides for coverage for specific services.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Health and Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Affordable Housing that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1739, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1739, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Health and  
Commerce, Consumer Protection,  
and Affordable Housing,



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BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, Chair



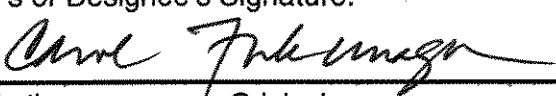
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DAVID Y. IGE, Chair



The Senate  
Twenty-Fourth Legislature  
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes  
Committee on Health  
HTH

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 1739	Committee Referral: HTH/CPH, WAM	Date: 2/6/07		
<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				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	4			1
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

