

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

618

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 16 2007

RE: S.B. No. 68
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. 68
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to promote choice and autonomy
by providing seniors with safe assisted living options.

The measure accomplishes this purpose by establishing safety
and evacuation criteria for assisted living facilities that accept
or retain individuals with physical, cognitive, or other
impairment that would prevent them from safely evacuating the
facility with minimum assistance. The measure requires that the
criteria be implemented by July 1, 2008.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from Department of Health, Roselani Place, and Maui Long Term Care
Partnership.

Your Committee finds that the State's elderly population is
growing to unprecedented heights as the baby boomers enter
retirement. It is inevitable that some of these seniors will need
assistance with their day-to-day activities, while maintaining
their much deserved independence. However, many seniors do not
require the level of care that is provided by skilled nursing
facilities. Instead, safe assisted living arrangements are the
most desired options for these individuals.



This measure is closely related to the concept of aging in place and encouraging the elderly to live in the least restrictive setting. These are laudable goals of a long-term care system. Assisted living facilities provide a combination of housing and personalized support services designed to respond to individual needs and to promote choice, responsibility, independence, privacy, dignity, and individuality. Your Committee believes this measure promotes the safety of assisted living facilities.

Your Committee has amended this measure to:

- (1) Clarify that the safety measures must allow the individual to safely evacuate the facility independently for self-preservation; and
- (2) Make technical, nonsubstantive amendments to correct a cross-reference citation.

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. 68, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 68, S.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

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.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 68	HTH	2-7-07		
<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