

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

498

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 16 2007

RE: S.B. No. 900

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. 900  
entitled:

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

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to expand mental health  
services available in Hawaii.

Specifically, this measure establishes a psychiatric health  
services pilot project to enable psychiatrists to collaborate with  
primary care physicians at federally qualified health centers to  
provide patients with needed psychiatric health care. The pilot  
project is to provide up to four psychiatric residents for Oahu  
and one psychiatrist in each of the following areas: East Hawaii,  
West Hawaii, Maui County, Kauai, and Oahu. This measure makes an  
appropriation of an unspecified amount for the 2007-2008 fiscal  
year.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by the  
Counseling Center at the University of Hawaii, Hilo; Hamakua  
Health Center; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; Hawai'i Primary  
Care Association; Hawaii Psychiatric Medical Association; National  
Alliance on Mental Illness-O'ahu; and five individuals. The  
Department of Health and the Department of Human Services  
submitted testimony supporting the intent of this measure. The  
Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center submitted testimony in  
opposition.



Your Committee finds that mental health is an essential component of the overall health and well-being of every resident of the State. Your Committee notes there is a shortage of mental health specialists available, especially in rural communities and neighbor islands. The result is that many people do not get treatment or do not stick with their treatment. Another consequence is that primary health care providers are forced to deal with issues that require the help of a specialty in psychiatry.

Your Committee suggests that the appropriation for the fiscal year be in the amount of \$200,000, and used to fund one position for East Hawaii and another position for West Hawaii. Your Committee recommends to your Committee on Ways and Means an appropriation of \$500,000, for the 2008-2009 fiscal year to continue the two positions on the island of Hawaii and one additional position in each of the following areas: Maui, Kauai, and Oahu.

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. 900 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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




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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 900	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 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>5</b>	
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted		
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 		
Distribution:	Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office
		Pink Drafting Agency

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes