

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1030

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 27 2009

RE: H.B. No. 1362  
H.D. 1  
S.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2009  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 1362, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO GENETIC COUNSELORS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish a licensure program for genetic counselors within the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to ensure that individuals seeking genetic counseling receive the highest degree of quality services and professional conduct from licensed genetic counselors. The measure also provides penalties for non-compliance.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Kapiolani Medical Center and the Kapiolani Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Team. Testimony in opposition to this measure was submitted by the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Written testimony presented to the Committee may be reviewed on the Legislature's website.

Your Committee finds that genetic counselors are a vital part of the health care team that provides care to individuals throughout their lifespan. Although, a sunrise review was conducted by the Auditor, your Committee finds that the market for genetic counseling is increasing and this measure should move forward in order to protect the public from persons who are unauthorized and untrained to perform these services and to ensure



that genetic counseling services are provided by highly trained professionals.

Your Committee further finds that the Department of Health is in the best position to license genetic counselors. The operating costs would be less for the Department of Health than for the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs because the Department of Health has an existing genetics program which has been in effect for fifteen years. In addition, the Department of Health currently licenses other health professionals, such as radiology technicians, dieticians, clinical laboratory directors, medical technologists, clinical laboratory specialists, cytotechnologists, and medical laboratory technicians, because of its specialized expertise.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Replacing the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs with the Department of Health; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2009.

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 H.B. No. 1362, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1362, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.


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

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DAVID Y. IGE, Chair



The Senate  
 Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
 State of Hawaii

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Health**  
**HTH**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 1362 HD1	HTH, CPN	3 / 23 / 09		
<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)	✓			
GREEN, M.D., Josh (VC)	✓			
BAKER, Rosalyn H.	✓			
ESPERO, Will	✓			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	✓			
HEMMINGS, Fred				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	5	0	0	1
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
				
Distribution:				
Original	Yellow	Pink	Goldenrod	
File with Committee Report	Clerk's Office	Drafting Agency	Committee File Copy	

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes