

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1162

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 24, 2009

RE: S.B. No. 415
S.D. 2

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2009
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Human Services and Health, to which was referred S.B. No. 415, S.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOME CARE AGENCIES,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to require the Department of Health to license home care agencies.

Specifically, this bill:

- (1) Requires the Department of Health to:
 - (A) Begin licensing home care agencies on July 1, 2010; and
 - (B) Adopt rules to implement the licensure process;
- (2) Defines "home care agency" and "home care services; and
- (3) Exempts provider agencies under contract with the Elderly Affairs Division of the City and County of Honolulu from licensure requirements.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this bill from the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, the Healthcare Association of Hawaii, AARP Hawaii, and the ILWU Local 142. Testimony in opposition to the measure was submitted by the Department of Human

SB415 SD2 HSCR LRB 09-3070.doc




Services. The Department of Health deferred to the Department of Human Resources.

Your Committees find that an increasing number of Hawaii's residents, many of whom are elderly and vulnerable, are receiving a variety of home care services. The health, safety, and welfare of these residents must be protected. Your Committees find that licensing of home care agencies is an important step in providing this protection.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Human Services and Health that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 415, S.D. 2, and recommend that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Human Services
and Health,


RYAN I. YAMANE, Chair


JOHN M. MIZUNO, Chair



