

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

2453

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 26 2010

RE: S.B. No. 2205
S.D. 2

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2010
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 2205, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to allow individual beneficiaries enrolled in a Hawaii Employer Union Health Benefits Trust Fund health benefits plan to opt out of any plan requirement to purchase prescriptions from a mail order pharmacy.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from two concerned individuals. The written comments may be reviewed on the Legislature's website.

Your Committee finds that individual beneficiaries enrolled in a Hawaii Employer Union Health Benefits Trust Fund health benefits plan have recently been required by the plan to purchase prescription medications from mail order pharmacies. A number of beneficiaries have experienced long delays, increased costs, and frustration over having to meet this requirement. Your Committee finds that allowing beneficiaries to opt out of this requirement would permit those beneficiaries to use local retail pharmacies where they may purchase their medications without unnecessary delay and receive advice in person from a qualified pharmacist. Your Committee acknowledges the cost-saving intent behind requiring beneficiaries to purchase prescription medications from mail-order pharmacies, but the Committee feels that savings should

SB2205 SD2 SSCR LRB 10-1882.doc

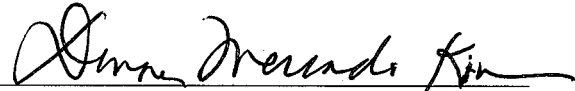


not come at the expense of beneficiaries' health or reliable customer service, especially when other in-state prescription provider options are available.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2205, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2205, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,




DONNA MERCADO KIM, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 2205 SD1	LBR, WAM	2.23.10		
<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
KIM, Donna Mercado (C)	/			
TSUTSUI, Shan S. (VC)	/			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	/			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	/			
FUKUNAGA, Carol				/
GALUTERIA, Brickwood	/			
HEE, Clayton				/
HOOSER, Gary L.	/			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	/			
KOKUBUN, Russell S.	/			
TOKUDA, Jill N.	/			
HEMMINGS, Fred				/
TOTAL	9	0	0	3
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