

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

154

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 14 2011

RE: S.B. No. 36
S.D. 1

Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui
President of the Senate
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2011
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred S.B. No. 36
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to convene a mental health and substance abuse parity working group to determine how the State can come into compliance with federal mental health and substance abuse parity laws and regulations and enhance its existing parity laws.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition, Ku Aloha 'Ola Mau, and The Salvation Army Addiction Treatment Services. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health and the Hawaii Medical Service Association.

Your Committee finds that, because the State has the option to enact and implement parity laws that are even more comprehensive than what is required for federal compliance, a mental health and substance abuse parity working group would best help the State determine how to establish these laws. Your Committee further finds that an amendment to this measure should be made to include an insurance representative in the working group in order to gather ideas from this industry.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

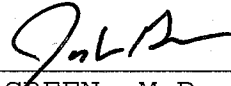
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- (1) Adding language to include a representative from a health insurance provider in the working group and to permit the Department of Health to work with other departments to carry out the purpose of the measure; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

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. 36, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 36, S.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

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

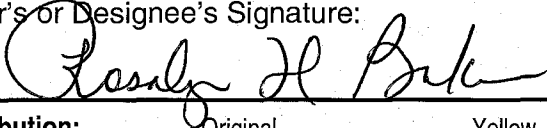


JOSH GREEN, M.D., Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Sixth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Health
HTH

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 36	Committee Referral: HTH	Date: 01/31/11		
<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
GREEN, M.D., Josh (C)	✓			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K. (VC)				✓
BAKER, Rosalyn H.	✓			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	✓			
SHIMABUKURO, Maile	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn	✓			
SLOM, Sam	✓			
TOTAL	6	-	-	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