

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 15 2011

RE: S.B. No. 788
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 Human Services, to which was referred S.B. No. 788 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Human Services to provide Medicaid presumptive eligibility to patients who have been waitlisted for long-term care until July 1, 2016;
- (2) Require the Department of Human Services to conduct a study that examines the potential implementation of a computerized system to process Medicaid applications; and
- (3) Appropriate funds to the Department of Human Services to cover the cost of any reimbursements made to providers or plans for services provided during the time that waitlisted patients are enrolled and eventually disenrolled due to a determination of ineligibility.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Kaiser Permanente, the Healthcare Association of Hawaii, Hawai'i Pacific Health, The Queen's Medical Center, the Hawaii Coalition for Health and Hawaii Congress of Physicians, Hawaii Disability Rights Center, and an individual. Your Committee



received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii hospitals have lost millions of dollars due to delays in discharging patients waitlisted for long-term care. Waitlisting is undesirable because it represents an inappropriate quality of care for the patient and creates a serious financial drain on hospitals. Discharge time frames for waitlisted patients can range from days to over a year.

Your Committee further finds that the Medicaid eligibility and re-eligibility application process in Hawaii is unable to handle the current volume of applications. Developing a long-term solution to severe problems associated with processing Medicaid applications would ease some of the burden that is placed on hospitals due to the limitations in Hawaii's Medicaid eligibility process.

Your Committee has amended this measure by 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 Human Services that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 788, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 788, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Human Services,

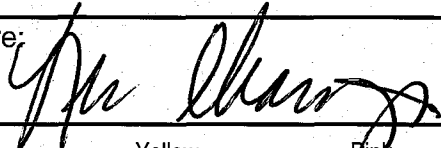
Suzanne Chun Oakland

SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Sixth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Human Services
HMS

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 788	Committee Referral: HMS, WAM	Date: 2-1-11		
<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
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne (C)	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les (VC)	✓			
GREEN, M.D., Josh	✓			
SLOM, Sam				✓
TOTAL	3	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