

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 493

Honolulu, Hawaii
Feb 18, 2011

RE: H.B. No. 421
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2011
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 421
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH INSURANCE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to require health, disability,
and other related insurers to provide coverage for servicing and
repairing medically necessary and prescribed motorized wheelchairs
and electronic convenience vehicles, including provision of
loaners or rentals while repairs are being made.

The Hawaii Disability Rights Center and numerous individuals
supported this measure. The Department of Commerce and Consumer
Affairs, the Hawaii Medical Service Association, the Hawaii
Association of Health Plans, and a concerned individual provided
comments.

The federal Patient Protections and Affordable Care Act was
signed into law in March of 2010 and will probably have an effect
on health coverage costs for the State. In addition, your
Committee feels strongly that the social and financial impacts of
this measure should be thoroughly considered before passage.
While your Committee appreciates the testimony provided by so many
individuals who rely on wheelchairs and similar devices, it would
be wisest to fully consider the implications on all parties of
such legislation before passing it but to make certain that this

HB421 HD1 HSCR HLT HMS 2011-2175



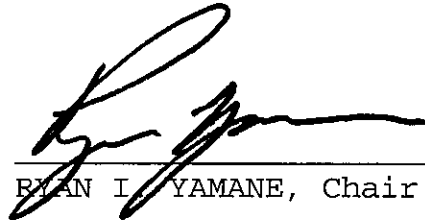
evaluation is done in a timely manner, allowing the Legislature to address this issue during the 2012 Regular Session.

With all of these considerations in mind, your Committee has amended this bill by deleting its contents and inserting provisions that request the Auditor to:

- (1) Conduct a study on the impact of access to motorized wheelchair service and repair, and loaners or rentals while repairs are being made;
- (2) Explain the impact of mandated insurance coverage for motorized wheelchair service on Medicaid, Medicare, and private insurance companies; and
- (3) Provide recommendations regarding mandated insurance coverage 20 days prior to the 2012 Legislative Session.

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. 421, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 421, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

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




RYAN I. YAMANE, Chair



HSCR 493

State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-sixth Legislature

Record of Votes of the Committee on Health

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 421	Committee Referral: HLT, CPC	Date: 2/11/11		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
HLT Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. YAMANE, Ryan I. (C)	✓			
2. MORIKAWA, Dee (VC)	✓			
3. BELATTI, Della Au				✓
4. HANOHANO, Faye P.	✓			
5. JORDAN, Jo	✓			
6. LEE, Chris	✓			
7. MIZUNO, John M.	✓			
8. WOOLEY, Jessica	✓			
9. CHING, Corinne W.L.	✓			
10. PINE, Kymberly Marcos				✓
TOTAL (10)	8			2
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: 				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				