

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1046

Honolulu, Hawaii
March 20, 2013

RE: S.B. No. 1074
S.D. 2

Honorable Joseph M. Souki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
Regular Session of 2013
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred S.B. No. 1074, S.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PHYSICAL THERAPY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to regulate the practice of physical therapist assistants by:

- (1) Requiring physical therapist assistants to obtain licensure to practice in the State;
- (2) Allowing physical therapist assistants to be licensed without necessity of an examination if certain qualifications are met;
- (3) Providing exemptions to the licensure requirement if certain criteria are met;
- (4) Allowing a physical therapist to use support personnel, such as physical therapist assistants, if they meet certain requirements;
- (5) Adding a licensed physical therapist assistant to serve as a member on the Board of Physical Therapy;



- (6) Appropriating funds out of the Compliance Resolution Fund to implement the licensure of physical therapist assistants; and
- (7) Requiring a surcharge to be assessed to reimburse the Compliance Resolution Fund.

The Board of Physical Therapy, The Queen's Health Systems, Kaiser Permanente Hawaii, Hawaii Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association, and several concerned individuals supported this measure. The Occupational Therapy Association of Hawaii supported the intent of this measure.

Hawaii is the only state in the nation where physical therapist assistants are not regulated. Your Committee notes that physical therapist assistants must have graduated from a Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education-approved curriculum and have passed a national examination, as well as be licensed, in order to provide services that are reimbursed by Medicare and/or Medicaid. The lack of licensure by physical therapy assistants has an impact on these reimbursements.

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. 1074, S.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

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




DELLA AU BELATTI, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-seventh Legislature

HSR 1046

Record of Votes of the Committee on Health

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 1074 SD2	Committee Referral: HLT, HC , FIN	Date: 3/13/13		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input 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. BELATTI, Della Au (C)	✓			
2. MORIKAWA, Dee (VC)	✓			
3. CABANILLA, Rida T.R.				✓
4. CARROLL, Mele				✓
5. JORDAN, Jo				✓
6. KOBAYASHI, Bertrand	✓			
7. WOODSON, Justin H.	✓			
8. CHEAPE, Lauren Kealohilani	✓			
TOTAL (8)	5	0	0	3
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				