

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1148

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 01 2013

RE: S.C.R. No. 154
S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
Regular Session of 2013
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committees on Health and Commerce and Consumer Protection, to which was referred S.C.R. No. 154 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS THE SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL EFFECTS OF REQUIRING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR TOBACCO USE CESSATION TREATMENTS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the Auditor to assess the social and financial effects of requiring health insurance coverage for tobacco use cessation treatments.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from Kaiser Permanente and Hawaii Disability Rights Center.

Your Committees find that smoking is costly to employers in terms of smoking-related medical expenses and lost productivity and is the leading preventable cause of death in the United States. On average, smokers who quit will live longer and have fewer years of living with disability. Your Committees find that studies have shown that face-to-face counseling and interactive telephone counseling are more effective tobacco use cessation treatments than services that only provide educational or self-help materials, and the effectiveness of counseling services increases as the number and length of the sessions increase.

Your Committees find that employers who provide a tobacco use cessation benefit have reported an increase in the number of smokers who are willing to undergo treatment and an increase in



the percentage of those who successfully quit smoking. Your Committees also find that, over time, tobacco use cessation coverage generates financial returns for employers, including:

- (1) Reduced health care costs;
- (2) Reduced absenteeism;
- (3) Increased on-the-job productivity; and
- (4) Reduced life insurance costs.

As a result, your Committees request the Auditor to assess the social and financial effects of requiring health insurance coverage for tobacco use cessation treatments.

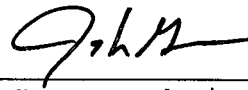
Your Committees have amended this measure by identifying Senate Bill No. 654 as the appropriate bill to be assessed by the Auditor.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Health and Commerce and Consumer Protection that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 154, as amended herein, and recommend that it be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 154, S.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Health and
Commerce and Consumer
Protection,



ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair

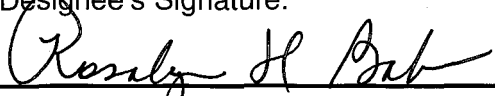


JOSH GREEN, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Seventh Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Health
HTH

Bill / Resolution No.:* SCR 154	Committee Referral: HTH/CPN, WAM	Date: 03/25/2013		
<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, Josh (C)	✓			
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (VC)	✓			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	✓			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	✓			
SLOM, Sam				✓
TOTAL	4	—	—	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

