

Honolulu, Hawaii  
February 5, 2013

RE: H.B. No. 877

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 H.B. No. 877  
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DESIGNEES FOR THE  
DIRECTORS OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER  
AFFAIRS, OF HEALTH, OF HUMAN SERVICES, AND OF LABOR AND  
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HAWAII  
HEALTH INSURANCE EXCHANGE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to improve the effectiveness  
of the Hawaii Health Connector Board of Directors (Board) by  
authorizing the executive department directors who are ex-officio  
voting members of the Board to select designees to serve on behalf  
of the directors at specified board meetings.

The Office of the Governor, Department of Commerce and  
Consumer Affairs, Department of Health, Department of Human  
Services, and Department of Labor and Industrial Relations  
testified in support of this measure. The Hawaii Primary Care  
Association supported the intent of this measure. The Hawaii  
Health Connector provided comments.

Your Committee finds that Act 205, Session Laws of Hawaii  
2011, established the Hawaii Health Connector as an independent  
nonprofit entity to fulfill the State's obligation to provide a  
health insurance exchange under the federal Patient Protection and  
Affordable Care Act. The Hawaii Health Connector is governed by a  
fifteen-member Board of Directors that includes the directors of



Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Health, Human Services, and Labor and Industrial Relations as ex-officio voting members.

Your Committee further finds that the four executive department directors who serve on the Board provide valuable information, perspective, and guidance that inform the Board's decisions on facilitating the purchase and sale of federally qualified health insurance and dental plans. However, the directors' schedules and obligations may make it difficult for them to attend every board meeting. This measure will help ensure the state administration's continued input at board meetings by authorizing the pertinent department directors to select a designee to serve on behalf of the director at specified board meetings. Your Committee finds that this measure will facilitate the Board's efforts to meet the deadlines imposed by the federal act.

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. 877 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

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

  
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DELLA AU BELATTI, Chair



