

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 13 2013

RE: S.B. No. 531
S.D. 1

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

Madam:

Your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, to which was referred S.B. No. 531 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WARNING SIGNS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require premises with liquor licenses to have a sign posted on or about the premises, including but not limited to the women's restroom, that provides customers with a warning of the risks of birth defects and fetal alcohol spectrum disorders for women drinking alcohol during pregnancy.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health, March of Dimes Foundation Hawaii Chapter, and Family Voices of Hawai'i. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Bar Owners Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services.

Your Committee finds that fetal alcohol syndrome disorder is the umbrella term used to describe a range of disorders caused by prenatal alcohol exposure. Your Committee further finds that alcohol exposure during pregnancy produces the most serious neurobehavioral effects in a fetus. There is no known safe amount of alcohol or safe time to drink alcohol during pregnancy.

Your Committee additionally finds that fetal alcohol syndrome disorder is preventable. Prevention starts with awareness that



drinking alcohol during pregnancy is associated with increased risks of having a child with life-long disabilities. Several studies have shown that alcohol warning signs raise awareness about the risk of drinking during pregnancy and may reduce alcohol consumption among light to moderate drinkers.

Your Committee notes that because the amendments proposed by this measure relate to advertisements and signs upon licensed liquor establishments, they are outside of the Comptroller's jurisdiction. Amendments to this measure are therefore needed to preserve the existing authority of the county liquor commissions over advertisements and signs in or about licensed premises.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Replacing all references to the term "comptroller" with the term "liquor commission"; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 531, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 531, S.D. 1.

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




ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Seventh Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
CPN

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 531	Committee Referral: HTH/PSM, CPN	Date: 2/8/13		
<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
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (C)	✓			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood (VC)	✓			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	✓			
SOLOMON, Malama	✓			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.				✓
WAKAI, Glenn	✓			
SLOM, Sam				✓
TOTAL	5			2
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