

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 28 2013

RE: S.B. No. 608
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. 608, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MEDICINE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Set content standards for physician continuing education regarding prevention and treatment of chronic disease through changes in nutrition and lifestyle;
- (2) Disseminate information regarding the prevention and treatment of chronic disease by the application of changes in nutrition and lifestyle behavior; and
- (3) Convene a working group to discuss nutrition and lifestyle behavior for the treatment and prevention of chronic disease at a Hawaii Medical Board meeting before July 1, 2016.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Medical Board.

Your Committee finds that seven out of ten deaths among Americans each year are from chronic diseases, and it is estimated that health care costs for chronic disease treatment account for over seventy-five percent of national health care expenditures.



According to the World Health Organization, diet is a major factor in the cause of chronic diseases, but more than one-half of graduating medical students report that the time dedicated to nutrition instruction is inadequate. Your Committee finds that this measure is necessary to address the issues of nutrition and lifestyle behavioral change by requiring the Hawaii Medical Board to set content standards for continuing education, disseminate relevant information, and assemble a working group to discuss the treatment and prevention of chronic disease through changes in nutrition and lifestyle.

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. 608, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

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



ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



