

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

79

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 06 2013

RE: S.B. No. 655
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 Health, to which was referred S.B. No. 655
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to allow physicians
to prescribe medication, without examination, to the partner of a
patient who has been diagnosed as having chlamydia or gonorrhea.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Health, Hawaii State Commission on the
Status of Women, Hawaii Rehabilitation Counseling Association,
Hawaii Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives, Hawaii
Medical Association, American Congress of Obstetricians and
Gynecologists, and six individuals. Your Committee received
testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii
Association for Justice.

Your Committee finds that many patients who have been
diagnosed with sexually transmitted diseases have sexual partners
who refuse to seek treatment. Your Committee finds that thirty-
two states already have laws allowing expedited partner therapy,
which allows physicians to prescribe medication for partners of a
patient diagnosed with sexually transmitted disease without first
examining them. Your Committee finds that the practice of
expedited partner therapy will greatly reduce the incidence of
sexually transmitted diseases in the State.

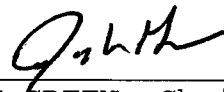


Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing all references from "partner" to "partners" to allow for multiple prescriptions to be issued to more than one partner of a patient, if medically necessary;
- (2) Amending the definition of "sexually transmitted disease" to mean any sexually transmitted disease recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for expedited partner therapy including but not limited to chlamydia, gonorrhea, and human immunodeficiency virus;
- (3) Changing references from "single-dose antibiotic therapy" to "antibiotic therapy" to allow the physician to prescribe what is medically necessary;
- (4) Amending certain specifics to be included on the information sheet, making them subject to the recommendation of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

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. 655, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 655, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

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

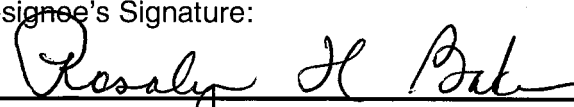


JOSH GREEN, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Seventh Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Health
HTH

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 655	Committee Referral: HTH, CPN	Date: 1/28/13		
<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
GREEN, Josh (C)	✓			
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (VC)	✓			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	✓			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	✓			
SLOM, Sam			X	
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