

Honolulu, Hawaii
February 8, 2016

RE: H.B. No. 1756
H.D. 1

Honorable Joseph M. Souki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2016
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 1756
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO NURSING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to ensure safe and quality
nursing services for patients statewide by:

- (1) Requiring all nurse licensure applicants and nurse
license renewal applicants to comply with state and
federal criminal history record checks; and
- (2) Authorizing the Board of Nursing to develop and adopt
rules to implement the required criminal history record
checks.

The Department of Public Safety, University of Hawai'i at
Manoa School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene, Hawai'i State Center
for Nursing, Hawai'i Pacific Health, Hawaii Association of
Professional Nurses, and a few individuals testified in support of
this measure. The Board of Nursing and an individual commented on
this measure. An individual opposed this measure.

Your Committee respectfully requests the Committee on
Consumer Protection & Commerce to consider the concerns raised by
the Board of Nursing with respect to the fingerprinting
requirements specified in this measure, including the impact of

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these requirements on the timely processing of nurse license applications and renewals. Your Committee notes that based on the Board of Nursing's testimony, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' Professional and Vocational Licensing Division will need the authority to establish three office assistant positions to timely process criminal background checks for nurses.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Commencing application of criminal history record check requirements with the nursing renewal licensing biennium that commences in 2019, rather than in 2017; and
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2070, to facilitate further discussion.

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. 1756, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1756, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

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



DELLA AU BELATTI, Chair



