

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 362

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 20 2015

RE: S.B. No. 1327  
S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2015  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committees on Human Services and Housing, Health, and  
Tourism and International Affairs, to which was referred S.B.  
No. 1327 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH CARE,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to ensure that  
Compact of Free Association (COFA) residents and other lawfully  
present legal permanent residents have access to affordable health  
care by:

- (1) Requiring the State to pay costs assessed on low-income  
COFA and other lawfully present legal permanent  
residents who receive health care through the Hawaii  
Health Connector and would otherwise be eligible for  
Medicaid except for their citizenship status;
- (2) Requiring the Department of Human Services to engage in  
community outreach to noncitizen resident communities to  
provide assistance with transfer and enrollment in  
health insurance plans through the Hawaii Health  
Connector; and
- (3) Appropriating funds to the Department of Human Services  
for health insurance costs addressed in this measure and  
community outreach.



Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Primary Care Association; Kokua Kalihi Valley Health Center; Queen's Health Systems; PHOCUSED; Catholic Charities Hawaii; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice; Niu Health Chiropractic; Pacific Alliance to Stop Slavery; HealthyPacific.org; Filipino Law Students Association, University of Hawaii at Manoa; SHIP-HOOPS; Hawaii Coalition for Immigrant Reform; and twenty-one individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services, Department of the Attorney General, Hawaii Medical Service Association, and two individuals.

Your Committees find that certain noncitizens who are lawfully present in the United States, including Hawaii COFA residents, are ineligible for Medicaid. Your Committees further find that this measure seeks to advance the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act's goal of increased health care access by assisting noncitizen residents, who must now access health insurance through the Hawaii Health Connector, with premium costs, co-payments, and deductibles. Specifically, this measure will help make health insurance affordable for approximately seven thousand five hundred non-pregnant, non-aged, non-blind, and non-disabled adult COFA noncitizen residents in Hawaii.

Your Committees heard testimony from the Hawaii Medical Service Association and others expressing concern that it will be operationally challenging for the Department of Human Services to pay the health providers directly for individuals' co-payments and deductibles because there is no system in place to accommodate this function, and that creating a suitable system would require additional resources. Your Committees find that this issue raises concerns that merit further consideration.

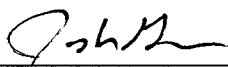
Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Broadening the group of eligible noncitizens covered to ensure compliance with equal protection laws;
- (2) Inserting blank appropriation amounts; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.



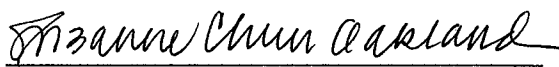
As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Human Services and Housing, Health, and Tourism and International Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1327, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1327, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committees on Human Services and Housing, Health, and Tourism and International Affairs,



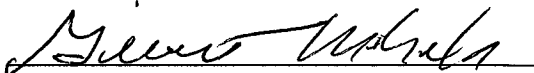
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JOSH GREEN, Chair



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SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, Chair



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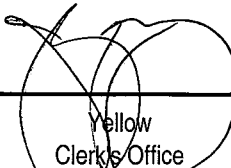
GILBERT KAHELE, Chair





The Senate  
 Twenty-Eighth Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Health**  
**HTH**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 1327	HSH/HTH/TSI, WAM	2/11/15		
<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)	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn (VC)	✓			
BAKER, Rosalyn H.	✓			
GABBARD, Mike				✓
RIVIERE, Gil	✓			
RUDERMAN, Russell E.				✓
SLOM, Sam				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	4			3
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <span style="margin-left: 200px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted</span>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
				
Distribution:				
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerks Office	Pink Drafting Agency	Goldenrod Committee File Copy	

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate  
 Twenty-Eighth Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Tourism and International Affairs**  
**TSI**

*2/10/15*

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB 1327</b>	Committee Referral: <b>HSH/HTH/TSI, WAM</b>	Date: <b>2/10/15</b>		
<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
KAHELE, Gilbert (C)	✓			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani (VC)	✓			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.				✓
TOKUDA, Jill N.	✓			
SLOM, Sam				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>			<b>2</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>J. Kalani English</i>				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original                      Yellow                      Pink                      Goldenrod File with Committee Report    Clerk's Office            Drafting Agency        Committee File Copy				

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