

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2880

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 17 2016

RE: S.C.R. No. 25  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2016  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,  
to which was referred S.C.R. No. 25 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION EXPRESSING STRONG SUPPORT FOR  
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WAHIAWA CENTER FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH  
TO PROVIDE PRIMARY MEDICAL CARE SERVICES TO THE MEDICALLY  
UNDERSERVED POPULATION OF WAHIAWA AND ITS SURROUNDING RURAL  
COMMUNITIES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to express support  
for the establishment of the Wahiawa Center for Community Health  
to provide primary healthcare services to the medically  
underserved population of Wahiawa and its surrounding rural  
communities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Department of Health, Hawai'i Primary Care Association,  
Wahiawa Community and Business Association, AlohaCare, 'Ohana  
Health Plan, Faith Action for Community Equity, Hawaii Association  
of Health Plans, and seventeen individuals.

Your Committee finds that approximately 43,000 individuals  
live in the Wahiawa community, of which fifty-four percent are  
living in a United States Department of Health and Human Services-  
designated Medically Underserved Population. This designation  
reflects the inadequate number of primary care clinicians  
practicing in Wahiawa and the area's poor socio-economic  
indicators. Access and availability of healthcare services in

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Wahiawa is diminishing at a rapid pace, in part due to the scarce number of physicians available to serve the community, are ready to retire or currently working at maximum patient capacity, are not accepting new patients, limit the type of insurance accepted, and cannot serve all of the uninsured who are unable to pay in full.

Your Committee further finds that community organizing and outreach revealed the definite need for a community health center, and the Wahiawa Center for Community Health was established to meet that need. The Wahiawa Center for Community Health was incorporated on January 25, 2012, and recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit entity with the express purpose of creating a federally qualified health center in Wahiawa to bring affordable, high quality, and accessible care to the people of Wahiawa, regardless of ability to pay and on a sliding discount scale. The establishment of the Wahiawa Center for Community Health is in the public interest and for the public health, safety, and general welfare to assist in the improvement of the healthcare system for residents of the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments, including to its title, for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 25, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means, in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 25, S.D. 1.

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

  
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ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



