

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

613

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 02 2017

RE: S.B. No. 984

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2017
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Judiciary and Labor and Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health, to which was referred S.B. No. 984 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION
PHYSICIAN,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to amend the definition of "physician" under workers' compensation law to include an advanced practice registered nurse.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Board of Nursing, Hawai'i State Center for Nursing, American Organization of Nurse Executives Hawaii, Hawaii Association of Professional Nurses, ILWU Local 142, and thirteen individuals.

Your Committees find that advanced practice registered nurses provide a wide variety of health care services to people in Hawaii. Section 323-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires each hospital within the State to allow advanced practice registered nurses to practice within the full scope of their practice, including as primary care providers. Advanced practice registered nurses are also recognized as participating primary health care providers for insurance purposes under the State's insurance code.



Your Committees further find that Hawaii's workers' compensation law omits advanced practice registered nurses from the definition of physician. The outdated definition must be amended to authorize increased participation by advanced practice registered nurses and recognize appropriately trained advanced practice registered nurses as primary care providers. Authorizing increased participation by advanced practice registered nurses in the workers' compensation system will enable improved access to health care services, expedite the processing of paperwork, and provide optimal care at the initial point of access for injured workers, especially in rural and underserved areas.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Judiciary and Labor and Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 984 and recommend that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Judiciary and
Labor and Commerce, Consumer
Protection, and Health,



ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair

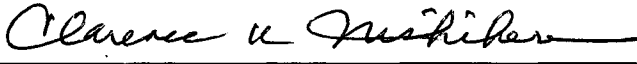


GILBERT S.C. KEITH-AGARAN, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Ninth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
CPH

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 984	Committee Referral: JDL/CPH	Date: 2/27/17		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (C)	/			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K. (VC)	/			
CHANG, Stanley	/			
ESPERO, Will	/			
IHARA, Jr., Les	/			
KIDANI, Michelle N.				/
RUDERMAN, Russell E.				/
TOTAL	5			2
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