

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **3103**

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 23 2018

RE: H.B. No. 2741
H.D. 2
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2018
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,
to which was referred H.B. No. 2741, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MEDICAL CANNABIS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish a
working group to address reimbursement by health insurance for
medical cannabis for qualifying patients.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Hawaii Educational Association of Licensed Therapeutic
Healthcare, Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the
Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and one individual. Your Committee
received comments on this measure from the Legislative Reference
Bureau.

Your Committee finds that Act 230, Session Laws of Hawaii
2016, established a legislative oversight group to develop and
recommend legislation to improve the medical cannabis dispensary
system in the State to ensure safe and legal access to medical
cannabis for qualifying patients. Your Committee further finds
that the working group explored the potential for medical cannabis
costs to be reimbursable through health insurance. However, your
Committee finds that the issues surrounding health insurance
reimbursement for medical cannabis are complex enough to warrant a



separate, dedicated working group modeled on the original working group.

Your Committee further finds that a plethora of voices are needed to ensure that all relevant interests are heard in the operations of this working group, including the interests of mutual benefit societies, health maintenance organizations, cannabis dispensaries, and adult and minor cannabis-using qualifying patients. Your Committee finds that language modeled on Act 230, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016, which established the original legislative oversight group, is appropriate to include these additional representatives.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

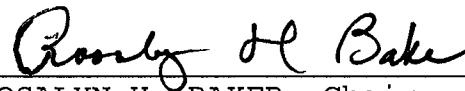
- (1) Amending the membership of the working group to:
 - (A) Allow designees of the Chairs of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health and House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce to serve on the working group;
 - (B) Remove the representatives from the Hawaii Medical Service Association, Kaiser Permanente Hawaii, AlohaCare, and Hawaii Education Association for Licensed Therapeutic Healthcare and include instead one representative each from a mutual benefit society, health maintenance organization, licensed cannabis dispensary, and Medicaid managed care plan, to serve at the invitation of the chairs of the working group; and
 - (C) Add an adult cannabis-using qualifying patient and a parent or legal guardian of a minor cannabis-using qualifying patient;
- (2) Authorizing the working group to request assistance and feedback from other stakeholders, as needed;
- (3) Requesting the Legislative Research Bureau to provide staff assistance to the working group;



- (4) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; 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 Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2741, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2741, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

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



ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



