

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

**3281**

Honolulu, Hawaii

**MAR 28 2018**

RE: S.C.R. No. 113

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 S.C.R. No. 113 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE PALLIATIVE CARE  
SERVICES AND DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS TO EXPAND PALLIATIVE  
CARE SERVICES IN HAWAII,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the  
Department of Health to convene a working group to examine  
palliative care services and develop recommendations to expand  
palliative care services in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Department of Health, O'ahu County Committee on  
Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, American  
Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, Hospice of Hilo-Hawai'i Care  
Choices, Kōkua Mau, St. Francis Healthcare System, and three  
individuals.

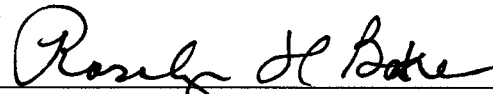
Your Committee finds that palliative care is specialized  
medical care for people with serious illness, including chronic  
and terminal illness. Your Committee finds that palliative care  
can improve the quality of life for the patient and the patient's  
family and has been shown to reduce the need for hospitalization,  
including emergency room visits, time spent in intensive care, and  
hospital readmissions. However, your Committee also finds that



palliative care is not universally offered, nor have the possibilities of palliative care been fully explored. Your Committee also notes that other states have successfully implemented working groups to study and expand palliative care services. Accordingly, your Committee finds that this State would similarly benefit from a working group to conduct an assessment of the current state of, and potential to improve, palliative care services in Hawaii.

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. 113 and recommends that it 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,



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ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



