

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

25

Honolulu, Hawaii

February 4, 2019

RE: H.B. No. 147  
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Thirtieth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2019  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 147  
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DISTRICT HEALTH OFFICERS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require that District  
Health Officers of the Department of Health be licensed  
physicians.

The Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the  
Democratic Party of Hawaii testified in support of this measure.  
The Department of Health submitted testimony in opposition.

Your Committee amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the proposed statutory language to be more  
permissive so as to allow, but not require, the District  
Health Officer position to be filled by a licensed  
physician; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2050, to promote  
further discussion.

Your Committee notes the Department of Health's concerns that  
requiring District Health Officers to also be licensed physicians

HB147 HD1 HSCR HLT HMS 2019-1520



will narrow an already small pool of eligible applicants. Your Committee also notes the Department of Health's oral testimony stating that drawing in licensed physicians who are also qualified health care administrators to apply for the positions would require matching competitive private sector pay rates.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 147, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 147, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Health,

  
JOHN M. MIZUNO, Chair



