

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 0 1 2019

RE: S.B. No. 1406  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirtieth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2019  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health and Judiciary, to which was referred S.B. No. 1406 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify the scope and practice of physician assistants in the State;
- (2) Amend the composition of the Hawaii Medical Board to include two physician assistants; and
- (3) Expand the grounds for revocation or suspension of a physician or surgeon's license.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from Hawai'i Pacific Health, American Academy of PAs, Society of Physician Assistants in Rheumatology, Minit Medical, and twenty-three individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Medical Association. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Regulated Industries Complaints Office of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Hawaii Medical Board, and Kaiser Permanente Hawaii.



Your Committees find that Hawaii is facing a critical physician shortage, especially in rural areas, which is expected to worsen with the increased demand for health care from an aging population. The latest physician workforce survey by the University of Hawaii shows that nearly eight hundred doctors are needed across all specialties in the State. Physician assistants are skilled health care providers trained to take medical histories, perform physical examinations, order and interpret laboratory tests, diagnose illnesses, develop and manage treatment plans, prescribe medications, and assist in surgery. Further, since the federal Affordable Care Act was passed in 2010, physician assistants have been one of the three health care professionals (along with physicians and nurse practitioners) who are authorized to provide primary care. Existing state law, however, requires physicians to review one hundred percent of physician assistants' charts, one of the most restrictive standards in the country, which creates a significant administrative burden on physicians.

Your Committees further find that a number of stakeholders, including the Hawaii Academy of Physician Assistants, Hawaii Medical Board, and Kaiser Permanente, have collaborated to suggest certain amendments and provisions that modernize the scope of practice for physician assistants. The consensus language is narrower in scope than this measure, but still provides physician assistants greater latitude to meet the urgent need for reform.

Accordingly, your Committees have amended this measure by deleting its contents and adopting consensus language agreed upon by stakeholders that:

- (1) Clarifies that the existing supervisory requirements for licensure as a physician assistant, including the degree of supervision required, also include supervision by a group of physicians;
- (2) Specifies requirements for the supervisory review of physician assistant medical records, including a percentage of supervision based on duration of licensure;



- (3) Establishes biennial requirements of forty credit hours of continuing medical education for physician assistant license renewal;
- (4) Authorizes the Hawaii Medical Board to conduct random audits to enforce compliance; and
- (5) Specifies conditions for forfeiture and reinstatement of a physician assistant license.

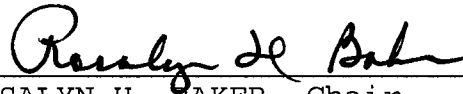
As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health and Judiciary that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1406, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1406, S.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

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



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KARL RHOADS, Chair



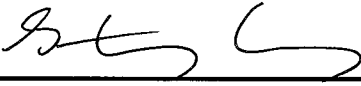
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ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



The Senate  
Thirtieth Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

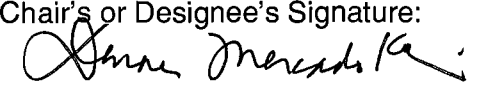
**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health**  
**CPH**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB 1406</b>	Committee Referral: <b>CPH/JDC</b>	Date: <b>2/27/19</b>		
<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 type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" 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)	✓			
CHANG, Stanley (VC)	✓			
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett	✓			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.				✓
RUDERMAN, Russell E.				✓
THIELEN, Laura H.	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>			<b>2</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; font-family: cursive;">  </div>				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original     Yellow     Pink     Goldenrod File with Committee Report     Clerk's Office     Drafting Agency     Committee File Copy				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate  
Thirtieth Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Judiciary**  
**JDC**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB 1406</b>	Committee Referral: <b>CPH/JDC</b>	Date: <b>2/27/19</b>		
<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 type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RHOADS, Karl (C)	/			
WAKAI, Glenn (VC)	/			
GABBARD, Mike	/			
KIM, Donna Mercado	/			
FEVELLA, Kurt	/			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>			
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original                      Yellow                      Pink                      Goldenrod File with Committee Report    Clerk's Office            Drafting Agency        Committee File Copy				

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