

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1442

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 20 , 2019

RE: S.B. No. 1494  
S.D. 2

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Health and Human Services & Homelessness,  
to which was referred S.B. No. 1494; S.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to create a working group to evaluate current system gaps and provide recommendations to promote effective integration of behavioral health care and related systems to address the negative impacts of substance abuse, mental health conditions, and homelessness.

The Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness, Department of Health, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Department of Human Services, The Judiciary, Hawaii Medical Service Association, 'Ohana Health Plan, Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition, Institute for Human Services, Mental Health America of Hawaii, and an individual testified in support. The Office of Information Practices provided comments.

Your Committees find that half of all adults in Hawaii who suffer from mental illness are not receiving adequate treatment, in part because of service gaps in behavioral health care and related services.

SB1494 SD2 HSCR HLT-HSH HMS 2019-3120

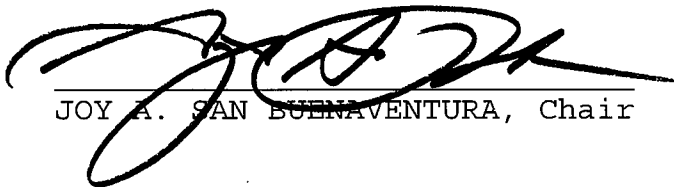


Your Committees note that, although no appropriation was included in this measure, the Senate Committee on Ways and Means determined that the working group would require \$50,000 in each year of the 2019-2021 fiscal biennium.

Finally, your Committees note the concerns raised by the Office of Information Practices that the working group would meet the definition of a "board", subjecting the working group to Sunshine Law requirements, but that the measure as currently written exempts the working group from the requirement to notify the public when a meeting is being held while simultaneously being held to all other open meeting requirements under part I of chapter 92, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Health and Human Services & Homelessness that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1494, S.D. 2, and recommend that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Health and Human  
Services & Homelessness,

  
JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Chair

  
JOHN M. MIZUNO, Chair





