

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 02 2019

RE: S.C.R. No. 111

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,
to which was referred S.C.R. No. 111 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE MEDICAL CANNABIS
INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENT WORKING GROUP TO CONTINUE ITS WORK TO
ADDRESS THE COMPLEXITIES SURROUNDING MEDICAL CANNABIS
REIMBURSEMENTS BY HEALTH INSURANCE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the
Medical Cannabis Insurance Reimbursement Working Group to continue
its work to address the complexities surrounding medical cannabis
reimbursements by health insurance.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from Pono Life Maui and Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii.


Your Committee finds that medical cannabis is a valuable tool
for health care providers when treating multiple disorders and
diagnoses including but not limited to cancer, glaucoma, epilepsy,
multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis, and lupus. For many
people, especially the disabled, chronically ill, or elderly
living on fixed incomes, insurance coverage is the primary means
of paying for necessary medications. However, unlike other
medications, medical cannabis is not covered by health insurance.
The Medical Cannabis Insurance Reimbursement Working Group was
established in 2018 to examine the complexities surrounding the
topic of making medical cannabis reimbursable by health insurance.



Due to the complexity of the issue, more work remains to be done. This measure enables the Medical Cannabis Insurance Reimbursement Working Group to continue its work examining the issues surrounding medical cannabis reimbursements by health insurance.

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. 111 and recommends its adoption.

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



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.:* <i>SCR III</i>	Committee Referral: <i>CPH</i>	Date: <i>3/28/19</i>		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input 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				/
TOTAL	<i>4</i>			<i>3</i>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes