

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 04 , 2020

RE: H.B. No. 1797

H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2020
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 1797
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure to improve patient access to
medical cannabis by authorizing naturopathic physicians to provide
written certification for medical cannabis use to qualifying
patients.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Hawaii Society of Naturopathic Physicians and numerous
individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to
this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of
the City and County of Honolulu. Your Committee received comments
on this measure from the Department of Health and Board of
Naturopathic Medicine.

Your Committee finds that every day, two hundred Americans
die of a drug overdose. However, medical cannabis can be a safe
alternative to opioids or other harmful drugs that are devastating
to communities. Adding naturopathic physicians to the provider
types eligible to certify patients for medical cannabis use will
increase access to health care and benefit the people of Hawaii
for whom medical cannabis may be a good therapeutic option.

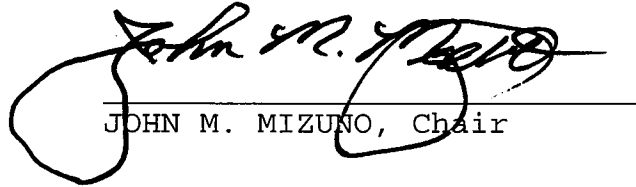


Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1797, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1797, 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



