

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 12 2020

RE: S.B. No. 2584
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2020
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,
to which was referred S.B. No. 2584 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DENTAL ASSISTANTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish minimum requirements for dental assistants;
and
- (2) Clarify the allowable and prohibited practices by dental
assistants.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association and a petition in
support signed by ninety individuals. Your Committee received
testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Dental
Association and four individuals. Your Committee received
comments on this measure from the Board of Dentistry.

Your Committee finds that currently, dental assistants are
unregulated by the State. Dental assistants are identified under
existing state law and administrative rules as unlicensed
auxiliary personnel who perform supportive dental procedures under
the direct supervision, direction, evaluation, and responsibility
of a licensed dentist. However, training for dental assistants is



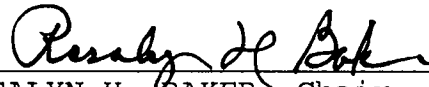
not standardized and is typically limited to on-the-job training. As a result, training for dental assistants varies widely from office to office and dentist to dentist.

Your Committee further finds that a 2018 sunrise analysis performed by the auditor pursuant to section 26H-6 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, determined that several basic tasks routinely performed by dental assistants can and do pose a reasonable risk of injury to patients. Accordingly, this measure establishes allowable and prohibited duties for dental assistants and requires standardized coursework in key areas to promote public health and safety.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

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 is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2584, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2584, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

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.:* SB2584	Committee Referral: CPH, JDC	Date: 1/30/20		
<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)	✓			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.				✓
RUDERMAN, Russell E.				✓
THIELEN, Laura H.				✓
WAKAI, Glenn	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
TOTAL	4			3
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; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes