

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **2810**

Honolulu, Hawaii

**FEB 14 2020**

RE: S.B. No. 2878

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. 2878 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MASSAGE THERAPY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to

- (1) Authorize the Board of Massage Therapy to prescribe sanitary rules for massage therapy establishments;
- (2) Repeal the petty misdemeanor penalty for those who practice massage or maintain a massage therapy establishment without a license; and
- (3) Increase the minimum and maximum fines for those who violate any law relating to the licensing of massage therapists.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Board of Massage Therapy and American Massage Therapy Association - Hawaii Chapter.

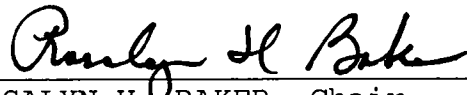
Your Committee finds that the Hawaii Administrative Rules that governed sanitation requirements for massage establishments were repealed in October 2018. The repeal resulted in existing massage establishments not being subject to any form of sanitation rules. Your Committee further finds that without any form of



sanitary requirement established in law, massage establishments will continue operating under self-imposed sanitary requirements. The Board of Massage Therapy is knowledgeable about best sanitary practices and your Committee believes the Board is better qualified than the Department of Health to adopt rules and regulations regarding sanitation requirements. This measure will ensure the safety of the public by granting rulemaking authority to, and clarifying enforcement powers of, the Board of Massage Therapy, and clarify certain penalties relating to the licensing of massage therapists.

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. 2878 and recommends that it pass Second Reading 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



