

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1049

Honolulu, Hawaii

, 2021

**MAR 19**

RE: S.B. No. 1285  
S.D. 2  
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2021  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness, to which was referred S.B. No. 1285, S.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MEDICAL FACILITIES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require any hospital that serves a community having more than five hundred Compact of Free Association benefit recipients to:

- (1) Establish diversity and inclusion training for all staff; and
- (2) Hire interpreters and community healthcare workers as necessary to bridge the language and cultural divide with the community.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from The Queen's Health Systems, Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights, and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General, Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i, Healthcare Association of Hawaii, Hawai'i Pacific Health, and one individual.

2021-2447 SB1285 HD1 HSCR HMSO



Your Committee finds that many Compact of Free Association (COFA) benefit recipients have experienced prejudice and discrimination in the health care system and as a result no longer use medical facilities as a first option to treat illness. Your Committee further finds that, with the reinstatement of Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program eligibility, many COFA benefit recipients are now able to participate in Medicaid and will no longer be part of the State's uninsured population. This measure will reduce barriers to health care by developing programs to bridge cultural and language gaps between health care providers and COFA benefit recipients.

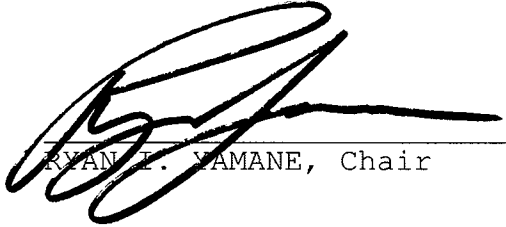
Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring only Hawaii Health Systems Corporation hospitals in counties with an area greater than four thousand square miles who serve Compact of Free Association benefit recipients to establish diversity and inclusion staff training and hire interpreters and community health care workers, as needed;
- (2) Requiring the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to provide oversight and enforcement of the diversity and inclusion staff training and hiring of interpreters and community health care workers, as needed;
- (3) Requiring the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to make a report to the Legislature on the status of the diversity and inclusion staff training and the hiring of interpreters and community health care workers;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2060, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) 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, Human Services, & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1285, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1285, S.D. 2, 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, Human  
Services, & Homelessness,



---

RYAN L. YAMANE, Chair



**Record of Votes of the Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness**

<b>Bill/Resolution No.:</b> SB1285, SD2	<b>Committee Referral:</b> HHH, CPC, FIN	<b>Date:</b> 3/16/2021		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
<b>The recommendation is to:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
<b>HHH Members</b>	<b>Ayes</b>	<b>Ayes (WR)</b>	<b>Nays</b>	<b>Excused</b>
1. YAMANE, Ryan I. (C)	✓			
2. TAM, Adrian K. (VC)	✓			
3. GATES, Cedric Asuega	✓			
4. HAR, Sharon E.	✓			
5. KAPELA, Jeanne	✓			
6. LoPRESTI, Matthew S.				✓
7. NISHIMOTO, Scott Y.	✓			
8. WARD, Gene	✓			
<b>TOTAL (8)</b>	7			1
<b>The recommendation is:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <small>committee acronym(s)</small>				
<b>Vice Chair's or designee's signature:</b>				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original (White) – Committee    Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office    Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				