

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

3285

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 21 2022

RE: H.B. No. 1797
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2022
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Human Services, to which was referred H.B. No. 1797, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOMELESS SERVICES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish within the Department of Human Services a three-year Medical Respite Pilot Program overseen by the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness to provide outpatient health care and supportive services to homeless persons recently discharged from the hospital and non-hospitalized homeless persons who are being moved out of unauthorized spaces by the police.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Psychological Association and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness, Department of Human Services, and Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that many homeless persons who have been discharged from hospitals require extended inpatient stays or experience repeat hospitalizations due to lack of access to a clean and safe place in which to recover. Your Committee believes that this measure will provide such individuals with a coordinated program of care, including medical care, housing assistance, and



supportive services, to improve their quality of life and standard of care thereby reducing the number of extended inpatient stays or repeat hospitalizations.

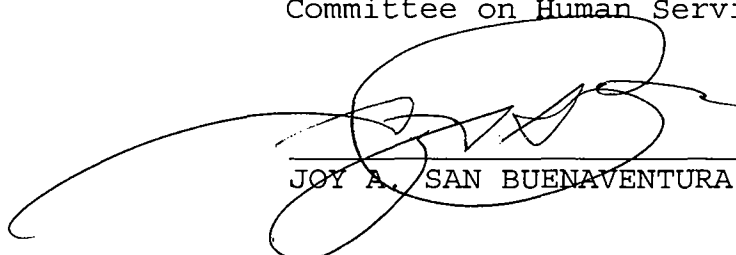
Your Committee notes the testimony of the Department of Human Services suggesting the utilization of existing Medicaid benefits to provide outpatient health care and supportive services under the Medical Respite Pilot Program, which would provide more sustainable funding.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Allowing the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness to enter into contracts for the provision of outpatient health care and supportive services in compliance with the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' guidance for a waiver under section 1115 of the Social Security Act, also known as a Medicaid Section 1115 Waiver, to allow the cost of such services to be reimbursed by existing Medicaid benefits; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1797, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1797, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committees on Ways and Means and Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Human Services,




JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-First Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Human Services
HMS

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 1797 HD1	HMS, WAM/JDC	03/15/22		
<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
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A. (C)	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les (VC)	✓			
ACASIO, Laura	✓			
MISALUCHA, Bennette E.	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
TOTAL	5	0	0	0
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution:				
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency	Goldenrod Committee File Copy	

*Only one measure per Record of Votes