Honolulu, Hawaii

## APR 2 9 2022

RE: S.B. No. 1138

S.D. 2 H.D. 2 C.D. 1

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

Honorable Scott K. Saiki Speaker, House of Representatives Thirty-First State Legislature Regular Session of 2022 State of Hawaii

## Sirs:

Your Committee on Conference on the disagreeing vote of the Senate to the amendments proposed by the House of Representatives in S.B. No. 1138, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF HEALTHCARE ASSURANCE SPECIAL FUND,"

having met, and after full and free discussion, has agreed to recommend and does recommend to the respective Houses the final passage of this bill in an amended form.

The purpose of this measure is to establish the annual expenditure ceiling of the Office of Health Care Assurance Special Fund through the state budget process and to fund increasing operational expenses, including contracts to implement a new management information system and background checks system.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the Office of Health Care Assurance performs all state licensing activities on health care facilities, agencies, and organizations in Hawaii. Although the Office of Health Care Assurance is partially funded through the Office of Health Care Assurance Special Fund, the special fund has a

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spending ceiling, and any expenses the Office of Health Care Assurance accrues above the spending ceiling must come from general funds. This was problematic during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, due to the detrimental financial impacts of pandemic response. Your Committee on Conference finds that the Office of Health Care Assurance requires more fiscal flexibility, particularly in a post-COVID-19 world, in order to cover the costs of contracted health care facility inspectors, fund investigations, and modernize operations. Accordingly, this measure establishes the ceiling of the Office of Health Care Assurance Special Fund through the state budget process.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to upon its approval; provided that section 3 of this measure shall take effect on July 1, 2022; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1138, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1138, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the managers:

ON THE PART OF THE HOUSE

ON THE PART OF THE SENATE

YANI. XAMANE

Co-Chair

ADRIAN K. TAM

Co-Chair

TARRETT KEOHOKALOLE

Chair

DRU KANUHA

Co-Chair

## Record of Votes of a Conference Committee

Bill / Concurrent Resolution No.: SB 1138, SD 2, HD 2					Date/Time: April 29, 2022/ 4:36 PM				
	House and S	enate	mana	gers	is to pass with amendments (CD).				
☐ The Committee is reconside							_		
The recommendation of the Senate Manager(s) is to AGREE to the House amendments made to the Senate Measure					The recommendation of the House Manager(s) is to AGREE to the Senate amendments made to the House Measure.				
Senate Managers	A	WR	N	Е	House Managers	A	WR	N	Е
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett, Chr.					YAMANE, Ryan I., Co-Chr.				
KANUHA, Dru Mamo, Co-Chr.					TAM, Adrian K., Co-Chr.				
FEVELLA, Kurt					HAR, Sharon E.			_	/
					WARD, Gene				
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TOTAL	3				TOTAL	3			\
A = Aye $WR = Aye$ with Reservation				N = Nay $E = Excused$					
Senate Recommendation is:				House Recommendation is:					
Adopted Not Adopted					Adopted	Not Ado	pted		
Senate Lead Chair's or Designee's Signature:					House Lead Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
Distribution: O  File with Confere	riginal nce Committe	e Repo	ort	На	Yellow Pink ouse Clerk's Office Senate Clerk's Of	fice L	<b>Golde</b> Orafting		