

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

2129

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 09 2022

RE: S.B. No. 2442
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 Health, to which was referred S.B. No. 2442
entitled:

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

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to streamline the
records review process for physician assistants by including
review of physician assistants' prescriptions for controlled
substances.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from Kaiser Permanente Hawaii, Hawai'i Academy of Physician
Assistants, Hawaii Medical Board, and twelve individuals. Your
Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from
one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State faces a critical
physician shortage, with Maui and Hawaii counties having the most
severe shortages. The physician shortage has resulted in an
increase in physician assistant practice throughout the State.
However, Hawaii has some of the most restrictive physician
assistant practice in the country. Under existing law, a
supervising physician must review all medical records of a
physician assistant that contain written orders or prescriptions
for controlled substances. Your Committee finds that this is an
overly burdensome administrative requirement that can be



alleviated without compromising patient care. This measure streamlines the records review process for physician assistants by including review of physician assistants' prescriptions for controlled substances.

Your Committee has amended this measure by 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 Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2442, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2442, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committees on Commerce and Consumer Protection and Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Health,



JARRETT KEOHOKALOLE, Chair



