

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1080-22

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 18, 2022

RE: S.B. No. 2678
S.D. 2
H.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness, to which was referred S.B. No. 2678, S.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII STATE HEALTH INSURANCE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the State Health Insurance Assistance Program to expand the program by contracting with third-party service providers and staffing consultants and recruiting more volunteers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging, Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition, AARP Hawai'i, Catholic Charities Hawai'i, and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) is a critical program that provides individuals who qualify for Medicare with reliable, unbiased, and free information on Medicare, Medicaid, other health plans, and related topics. Your Committee further finds that SHIP is staffed by only two full-time employees who train a team of over eighty dedicated volunteers to provide specialized assistance to the

2022-2185 SB2678 HD1 HSCR HMSO



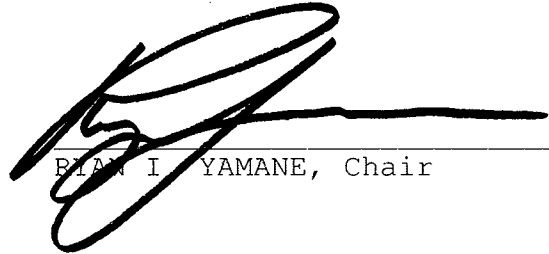
public free of charge. Hawaii SHIP has the least number of staff for the largest number of Medicare beneficiaries and needs to expand in order to meet the State's growing Medicare population. This measure ensures the continued stability and continuity of SHIP by appropriating state funds to expand the program, which will ensure more people have access to SHIP's valuable services.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2060, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) 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. 2678, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2678, 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,



BRIAN I. YAMANE, Chair



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

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 2678 SD2	Committee Referral: HHH, CPC, FIN	Date: 03/15/2022		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <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)				
HHH Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. YAMANE, Ryan I. (C)	✓			
2. TAM, Adrian K. (VC)	✓			
3. GATES, Cedric Asuega	✓			
4. HAR, Sharon E.	✓			
5. KAPELA, Jeanne	✓			
6. NISHIMOTO, Scott Y.	✓			
7. WARD, Gene	✓			
TOTAL (7)	7			
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <small>committee acronym(s)</small>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				