

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 12 2021

RE: S.B. No. 629
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2021
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred S.B. No. 629 entitled:

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

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Align with recent enactments that provide a process for the voluntary or involuntary sale or transfer of a dispensary license, remove the exclusion from dispensary employment for certain class C felony convictions, and repeal certain restrictions on medical cannabis dispensary siting;
- (2) Include primary caregivers, qualifying out-of-state patients, and caregivers of a qualifying out-of-state patient as covered individuals; and
- (3) Better serve the needs and protect the safety of Hawaii's seriously ill patients.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health, Big Island Grown Dispensaries, and Hawai'i Cannabis Industry Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.



Your Committee finds that this measure will allow family members, caregivers, or other assistants to help patients into retail medical cannabis dispensaries while preventing unauthorized access to medical cannabis. Your Committee also finds that this measure will clarify that each day of a violation of Hawaii's medical cannabis dispensary system laws under chapter 329D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is a separate offense, thus facilitating oversight of dispensary compliance.

Your Committee also notes the Department of the Attorney General's concerns of allowing individuals convicted of felonies - the highest grade of offense under the penal code - to handle or sell marijuana. Therefore, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting section 3 of the measure that would allow for the transfer of dispensary licenses;
- (2) Deleting the amendment that would allow individuals convicted of a felony to work in a medical cannabis dispensary;
- (3) Deleting section 7 of the measure, as that proposed amendment was previously implemented by Act 70, Session Laws of Hawaii 2020; and
- (4) 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. 629, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 629, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.



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



JARRETT KEOHOKALOLE, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-First Legislature
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes
Committee on Health
HTH**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB629	HTH, JDC	2-3-2021		
<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
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett (C)	✓			
BAKER, Rosalyn (VC)	✓			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.	✓			
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
TOTAL	5	-	-	-
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align:center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">Rosalyn H. Baker</div>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes