

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3691

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 05 2022

RE: S.C.R. No. 229  
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 Commerce and Consumer Protection, to which was referred S.C.R. No. 229 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS THE SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL EFFECTS OF MANDATING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR ANNUAL MENTAL HEALTH WELLNESS EXAMINATIONS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the Auditor to assess the social and financial effects of mandating health insurance coverage for annual mental health wellness examinations.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Kaiser Permanente Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of the Auditor.

Your Committee finds that nearly one in five Americans experience a mental illness or disorder each year and that less than half of those experiencing a mental illness or disorder receive mental health services. Properly identifying and screening for mental illness could help reduce the health care costs and lost wages attributed to untreated mental illness every year. Senate Bill No. 728, Regular Session of 2021 (S.B. No. 728) and S.B. No. 2467, S.D. 2, Regular Session of 2022 (S.B. No. 2467), would require health insurers and similar entities that



provide coverage for health care to provide coverage for annual mental health screenings. This measure requests the Auditor to conduct a social and financial impact assessment of the proposed mandated coverage in S.B. No. 728 and S.B. No. 2467, pursuant to sections 23-51 and 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to further efforts to support the mental health of residents in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying S.B. No. 728 and S.B. No. 2467 as the measures requested to be analyzed by the Auditor;
- (2) Inserting language requesting the Auditor to define "mental health wellness examination" to allow health insurers to determine coverage requirements;
- (3) Requesting the Auditor to include in the impact assessment report a survey of other states in the United States that have implemented a mandate for annual mental health wellness examination benefits and to examine the resulting social and financial impact in those states; 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 Commerce and Consumer Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 229, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 229, S.D. 1.

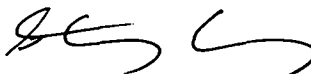
Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Commerce and  
Consumer Protection,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



The Senate  
Thirty-First Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection**  
**CPN**

|  |                     |            |     |         |
|--|---------------------|------------|-----|---------|
| Bill / Resolution No.:*  | Committee Referral: | Date:      |     |         |
| SCR 229  | CPN                 | 03-23-2022 |     |         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.<br>If so, then the previous decision was to: _____  |                     |            |     |         |
| The Recommendation is:<br><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 |
| BAKER, Rosalyn H. (C)  | ✓                   |            |     |         |
| CHANG, Stanley (VC)  | ✓                   |            |     |         |
| DECOITE, Lynn  | ✓                   |            |     |         |
| NISHIHARA, Clarence K.   | ✓                   |            |     |         |
| RIVIERE, Gil   | ✓                   |            |     |         |
| SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.   | ✓                   |            |     |         |
| FEVELLA, Kurt  | ✓                   |            |     |         |
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| <b>TOTAL</b>   | 7                   |            |     |         |
| Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted   |                     |            |     |         |
| Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>   |                     |            |     |         |
| <b>Distribution:</b> Original                              Yellow                              Pink                              Goldenrod<br>File with Committee Report            Clerk's Office                    Drafting Agency                Committee File Copy |                     |            |     |         |

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes