

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3427

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 03 2024

RE: S.C.R. No. 34

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-Second State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2024  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health and Human Services, to which was referred S.C.R. No. 34 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE HAWAII MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND HAWAII PSYCHIATRIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION TO CONVENE A ROUNDTABLE TO ESTABLISH MEDICAL PROTOCOLS TO ENSURE THAT AN INDIVIDUAL'S THYROID FUNCTION IS TESTED BEFORE PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATIONS FOR MENTAL ILLNESS ARE PRESCRIBED,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the Hawaii Medical Association and Hawaii Psychiatric Medical Association to convene a roundtable to establish medical protocols to ensure that an individual's thyroid function is tested before any psychotropic medications for mental health illness are prescribed.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Disability Rights Center and three individuals.

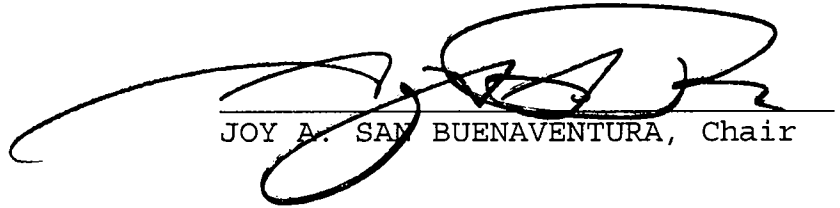
Your Committee finds that doctors and others who have prescriptive authority often appropriately prescribe psychotropic medications to treat mental illness. However, sometimes untreated thyroid conditions can also result in exhibiting symptoms similar to mental illness. Some individuals have been prescribed psychotropic medications without first testing for the presence of a thyroid condition, and for those individuals who did have a thyroid condition, the psychotropic medications the individuals



received were either ineffective or potentially harmful. Your Committee additionally finds that testing for abnormal thyroid levels is a simple process that can be done through a blood test. Accordingly, this measure promotes best practices to ensure root causes are addressed through proper testing and to educate providers to improve access to care.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health and Human Services that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 34 and recommends its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Health and Human  
Services,



JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-Second Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Health and Human Services**  
**HHS**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SCR 34</b>	Committee Referral: <b>HHS</b>	Date: <b>03/22/2024</b>		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Pass, unamended</b> 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Pass, with amendments</b> 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Hold</b> 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Recommit</b> 2313				
Members	Aye/	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A. (C)	✓			
AQUINO, Henry J.C. (VC)	✓			
KEOHOKAOLE, Jarrett	✓			
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.				✓
AWA, Brenton				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>			<b>2</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Adopted</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Not Adopted</b>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original                      Yellow                      Pink                      Goldenrod File with Committee Report    Clerk's Office            Drafting Agency        Committee File Copy				

**\*Only one measure per Record of Votes**