STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1085

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 1 4 2025

RE: S.R. No. 10 S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate Thirty-Third State Legislature Regular Session of 2025 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health and Human Services, to which was referred S.R. No. 10 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A SUNRISE ANALYSIS OF LACTATION CONSULTANT LICENSURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the Auditor to conduct a sunrise analysis of the licensing of lactation consultants.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Lokahi Lactation LLC, Mother's Milk LLC, and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that increasing access to maternal health care in the State is critical for ensuring the health and well-being of mothers and their infants. Your Committee further finds that a lactation consultant is a health care professional who specializes in the clinical management of lactation and feeding, trained to assist mothers in preventing and solving breastfeeding difficulties. Your Committee finds, however, that existing state law does not require lactation consultants to be licensed, certified, registered, or otherwise regulated by the State. Your Committee also finds that the current high out-of-pocket costs for lactation consulting services present a significant barrier for many families to access the much needed



services. Requiring licensure and regulation of lactation consulting services in the State will ensure a standardized high-level of care and enable the services to be reimbursable under private and public health insurance plans, making high-quality lactation consulting services more affordable and accessible to families throughout the State.

Accordingly, the Legislature introduced S.B. No. 317 during the Regular Session of 2025, which proposes to establish the Board of Lactation Consultants and require lactation consultants to be licensed by the Board. Section 26H-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires new measures subjecting unregulated professions and vocations to licensing or other regulatory controls to be referred to the Auditor for analysis. This measure requests the Auditor to analyze the licensure and regulation of lactation consultants proposed in S.B. No. 317 to satisfy this statutory requirement.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting references to S.B. No. 317, introduced during the Regular Session of 2025, as the specific legislative bill that the Auditor is requested to analyze; and
- (2) 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 and Human Services that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 10, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, in the form attached hereto as S.R. No. 10, S.D. 1.

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

JOY Chair



The Senate Thirty-Third Legislature State of Hawaiʻi

Record of Votes Committee on Health and Human Services HHS

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee	Dat	Date:		
SRID	HHS, CPN			2/:	24/25
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.					
If so, then the previous decision was to:					
The Recommendation is:					
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313					
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A. (C)					
AQUINO, Henry J.C. (VC)					
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.					
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett		_			
FEVELLA, Kurt					
					<u> </u>
TOTAL		4			
Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted					
Chair's or Designee's Signature:					
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy					

*Only <u>one</u> measure per Record of Votes