

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 04 2025

RE: H.B. No. 705
H.D. 1
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 Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 705, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to assist underserved populations in obtaining and retaining medical and prescription drug insurance.

Specifically, this measure:

- (1) Establishes a temporary Medi-medi Project within the Hawaii State Health Insurance Assistance Program to assist certain individuals to obtain insurance benefits;
- (2) Requires the Executive Office on Aging to submit a report on the program to the Legislature; and
- (3) Appropriates an unspecified sum for the program.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Disability and Communication Access Board, Executive Office on Aging, Hawaii State Council on Developmental

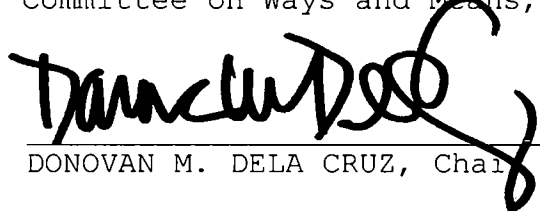


Disabilities, AARP Hawaii, AlohaCare, Democratic Party of Hawai'i, Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs, and one individual.

Your Committee finds that many older adults, individuals with disabilities, those who speak English as a second language, and those who live in rural areas often face significant challenges in navigating the complex landscape of health benefits. Your Committee believes that establishing the Medi-medi Project can help to address these challenges and assist individuals in obtaining the insurance benefits to which they are entitled, thereby promoting greater access to healthcare and improving their quality of life.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 705, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,



DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB705 HD1 SD1	Committee Referral: HHS, WAM	Date: 4/2/2025		
<div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;"><div style="margin-right: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____</div></div>				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313</div></div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y. (VC)	X			
AQUINO, Henry J.C.	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	X			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	X			
INOUE, Lorraine R.	X			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X			
KIM, Donna Mercado	X			
LEE, Chris	X			
WAKAI, Glenn	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
TOTAL	13	0	0	0
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted</div></div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;"></div>				
Distribution: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"><div>Original File with Committee Report</div><div>Yellow Clerk's Office</div><div>Pink Drafting Agency</div><div>Goldenrod Committee File Copy</div></div>				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes