

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 142

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 7, 2007

RE: H.B. No. 378

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2007
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 378
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO NURSING EDUCATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to help address Hawaii's serious
shortage of nursing professionals by appropriating funds to the
University of Hawaii (UH) to:

- (1) Hire more nursing faculty and support positions;
- (2) Provide nursing scholarships and loans;
- (3) Expand UH School of Nursing facilities;
- (4) Advance the work of the Hawaii Statewide Nursing
Consortium; and
- (5) Provide distance learning.

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii, Hawaii Government
Employees Association, Queen's Medical Center, Hawaii Primary Care
Association, Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, Hawaii State
Center for Nursing, Hawaii Association of Professional Nurses, and
several concerned individuals supported this bill. UH submitted
comments on this measure.

HB378 HSCR HLT HMS 2007-1737



Your Committee finds that innovative methods must be used to fulfill Hawaii's need for more nursing professionals. This bill provides substantial funding for programs to assist in this goal. Your Committee supports this initiative and sees it as providing additional funding to UH's nursing program without affecting appropriation requests made by the UH Board of Regents and placed in the Executive budget.

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 H.B. No. 378 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Higher Education.

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



JOSHUA B. GREEN, M.D., Chair



