

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1367 -08

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 24, 2008

RE: H.C.R. No. 148

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2008
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.C.R. No. 148 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING HAWAII'S HEALTH INSURERS TO PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR FEES CHARGED FOR LETTERS PROVIDED BY A PHYSICIAN AS VERIFICATION OF A PATIENT'S DISABILITY OR OTHER CONDITION FOR WHICH SUBSTANTIATION IS NECESSARY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this concurrent resolution is to alleviate the overwhelming financial burdens and assist those who need help without having further hardships placed upon them by urging Hawaii's Health Insurers to provide coverage for fees charged for letters provided by a physician as verification of a patient's disability or other condition for which substantiation is necessary.

The Disability and Communication Access Board supports this concurrent resolution. The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs submitted comments.

Your Committee acknowledges that there are many reasons why a person may need a letter from a physician, including workers who seek reasonable accommodation on the job, time off for family medical leave for a serious or life-threatening illness or who are returning to work.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your

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Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 148 and recommends that it be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

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

Josh Green M.D.
JOSHUA B. GREEN, M.D., Chair



Record of Votes of the Committee on Health

Bill/Resolution No.: HCR 148		Committee Referral: HLT, CPC		Date: 3-19-08	
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.					
The recommendation is to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)					
HLT Members		Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. GREEN, Josh, M.D. (C)		✓			
2. MIZUNO, John (VC)		✓			
3. AWANA, Karen Leinani		✓			
4. BELATTI, Della Au					✓
5. BERTRAM, Joe, III					✓
6. CABANILLA, Rida T.R.					✓
7. RHOADS, Karl		✓			
8. SHIMABUKURO, Maile S. L.		✓			
9. TOKIOKA, James Kunane		✓			
10. WARD, Gene, Ph.D.		✓			
TOTAL (10)		7			3
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)					
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: <u>John M. ...</u>					
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office					