

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1595

Honolulu, Hawaii

April 10, 2015

RE: S.B. No. 791
S.D. 1
H.D. 2

Honorable Joseph M. Souki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2015
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Finance, to which was referred S.B. No. 791, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require that health insurance policies and contracts issued in this State provide coverage for autism diagnosis and treatment for individuals eighteen years of age and under.

The Center for Autism and Related Disorders; National Association of Social Workers, Hawaii Chapter; Hawaii Association for Behavior Analysis; and a multitude of individuals testified in support of this measure. The American Council of Life Insurers and Hawaii Medical Service Association opposed this measure. The Department of Health, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Easter Seals Hawaii, Hawaii Psychological Association, Special Education Advisory Council, Hawaii Disability Rights Center, Autism Society, Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, Autism Speaks, Community Children's Councils of Hawaii, and numerous individuals commented on this measure.

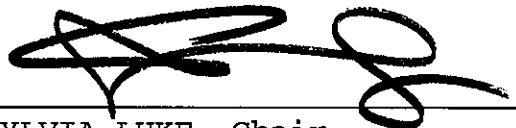


Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Exempting disability insurance policies from coverage for autism spectrum disorders;
- (2) Changing the maximum age of eligibility for the treatment of autism spectrum disorders to an unspecified age; and
- (3) Changing the maximum benefit coverage breakdown to unspecified amounts and age ranges.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 791, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 791, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

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



SYLVIA LUKE, Chair



HSCP 1595

Bill/Resolution No.:	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 791 , SD1 , HD1	HLT , FIN	4/8/15		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" 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)				
FIN Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. LUKE, Sylvia (C)	/			
2. NISHIMOTO, Scott Y. (VC)	/			
3. CACHOLA, Romy M.	/			
4. CULLEN, Ty J.K.	/			
5. DeCOITE, Lynn	/			
6. JOHANSON, Aaron Ling	/			
7. JORDAN, Jo	/			
8. KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett	/			
9. KOBAYASHI, Bertrand	/			
10. LOWEN, Nicole E.	/			
11. ONISHI, Richard H.K.	/			
12. TOKIOKA, James Kunane	/			/
13. YAMASHITA, Kyle T.	/			
14. POUHA, Feki	/			
15. WARD, Gene	/			
TOTAL (15)	14			1
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:				
Distribution:	Original (White) – Committee	Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office	Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO	