

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 18 2011

RE: S.B. No. 1452
S.D. 1

Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui
President of the Senate
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2011
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Health and Commerce and Consumer Protection, to which was referred S.B. No. 1452 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH INSURANCE,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require health insurers to provide coverage for specified types of smoking cessation methods in an effort to curtail the prevalence of smoking addiction and its related health problems.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Lana'i Community Health Center, Hawai'i Primary Care Association, 'Ohana Health Plan, the American Heart Association, Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i, Castle Medical Center, Rising Up, Inc., and four private citizens. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Association of Health Plans and Hawaii Medical Service Association. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services, Kaiser Permanente, and the American Family Life Assurance Company of Columbus (AFLAC).

Your Committees find that the negative effects of tobacco use strain the State's financial resources by directly contributing to the health problems of Hawaii's residents. Requiring health insurers to provide coverage for smoking cessation methods will provide an additional step in battling the problems associated with smoking. Based on testimony received, your Committees find that the measure could be improved by including coverage for all



tobacco use cessation methods. Furthermore, your Committees also find that by eliminating co-payments and including coverage for group counseling sessions, the measure could reach more of Hawaii's residents who are struggling to reduce or cease tobacco use.

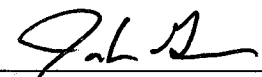
Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Expanding the coverage for tobacco use cessation;
- (2) Requiring coverage for group therapy and over-the-counter nicotine replacement products;
- (3) Requiring that coverage for tobacco use cessation methods be provided without co-payments or deductibles;
- (4) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to allow for further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Health and Commerce and Consumer Protection that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1452, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1452, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Health and
Commerce and Consumer
Protection,


ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair


JOSH GREEN, M.D., Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Sixth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i


Record of Votes
Committee on Health
HTH

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 1452	Committee Referral: HTH/CPH, WAM	Date: 2/10/11		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
GREEN, M.D., Josh (C)	✓			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K. (VC)	✓			
BAKER, Rosalyn H.	✓			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	✓			
SHIMABUKURO, Maile				✓
WAKAI, Glenn	✓			
SLOM, Sam				✓
TOTAL	5			2
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align: center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">Clarence K. Nishihara</div>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate
 Twenty-Sixth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
CPN

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 1452	Committee Referral: HTH/CPN, WAGM	Date: 2/10/2011		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (C)	✓			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T. (VC)	✓			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood				✓
GREEN, M.D., Josh	✓			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	✓			
SOLOMON, Malama				✓
SLOM, Sam				✓
TOTAL	4	0	0	3
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> 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 one measure per Record of Votes