

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1292

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 15 2011

RE: S.C.R. No. 8  
S.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred  
S.C.R. No. 8, S.D. 1, entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO  
ASSESS THE SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL EFFECTS OF REQUIRING HEALTH  
INSURERS TO PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the  
Auditor to assess the social and financial effects of requiring  
health insurers to provide coverage for naturopathic medicine.

Your Committee received comments in support of this measure  
from Michael Traub, Legislative Committee Chairperson, Hawaii  
Society of Naturopathic Physicians; David Kern, Medical Director  
of Grace Health Clinics and President of Hawaii Society of  
Naturopathic Physicians; Dr. Sarah Strong, ND, Hilo Natural Health  
Clinic; Darrow Hand; Ian Cholewa; K McGlone; Allison Bachlet; and  
Miles Greenberg.

This measure requests the Auditor to assess the social and  
financial effects of requiring health coverage for naturopathic  
medicine as proposed under S.B. No. 122, S.D. 2 (2011), pursuant  
to the procedural requirements under sections 23-51 and 23-52,  
Hawaii Revised Statutes, for legislation proposing mandatory  
health insurance coverage.

Your Committee finds that naturopathic medicine is an  
effective alternative health care system that uses a wide range of

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approaches such as nutrition, herbs, manipulation of the body, exercise, stress reduction, and acupuncture. In Hawaii, naturopathic medicine is a mandatory reimbursable expense under workers' compensation insurance and a personal injury benefit under automobile insurance policies. However, health insurance policies in Hawaii are not required to cover naturopathic medicine. This measure complies with state law that requires the social and financial effects of such a requirement to be assessed prior to mandating health insurance coverage for naturopathic care.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 8, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

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

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DAVID Y. IGE, Chair



The Senate  
 Twenty-Sixth Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Ways and Means**  
**WAM**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SCR 8, SDI	CPN, WAM	4-13-11		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310		
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
IGE, David Y. (C)	/			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)	/			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	/			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.	/			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani				✓
ESPERO, Will				✓
FUKUNAGA, Carol				✓
KIM, Donna Mercado				✓
KAHELE, Gilbert	/			
KOUCHI, Ronald D.	/			
RYAN, Pohai	/			
TOKUDA, Jill N.	/			
WAKAI, Glenn	/			
SLOM, Sam			✓	
<b>TOTAL</b>	9	0	1	4
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted		<input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted		
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
<i>Michelle N. Kidani</i>				
<b>Distribution:</b>				
Original	Yellow	Pink	Goldenrod	
File with Committee Report	Clerk's Office	Drafting Agency	Committee File Copy	

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes