

Honolulu, Hawaii  
February 17, 2016

RE: H.B. No. 2559  
H.D. 1

Honorable Joseph M. Souki  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2016  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 2559  
entitled:

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

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require the family courts  
to consider assisted community treatment as an alternative to  
commitment to a psychiatric facility for a person subject to a  
petition for involuntary hospitalization. This measure also  
repeals the sunset date of current statutes establishing criteria  
and procedures for family court-ordered assisted community  
treatment.

The Hawai'i Psychological Association and Hawaii Association  
of Professional Nurses testified in support of this measure. The  
Department of Health, Department of the Attorney General, and  
Hawaii Disability Rights Center commented on this measure.

Your Committee has amended this bill by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2070, to  
facilitate further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity,  
consistency, and style.



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. 2559, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2559, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

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



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DELLA AU BELATTI, Chair



