



DEPT. COMM. NO. 115

December 15, 2017

VIA HAND DELIVERY AND EMAIL

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
Senate President
415 South Beretania Street
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz
Chair, Senate Committee on Ways and Means
415 South Beretania Street
State Capitol, Room 208
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker
Chair, Senate Committee on Commerce,
Consumer Protection, and Health
415 South Beretania Street
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: Study of Proposed Mandatory Health Insurance for Cognitive Rehabilitation Therapy, Report No. 17-13

Dear Mr. President, Chair Dela Cruz, and Chair Baker:

We are enclosing a copy of our *Study of Proposed Mandatory Health Insurance for Cognitive Rehabilitation Therapy*, Report No. 17-13. During the 2017 session, the Legislature proposed mandating insurance coverage for cognitive rehabilitation therapy for survivors of traumatic brain injury and passed a concurrent resolution asking the Office of the Auditor to assess the social and financial impacts of such mandated coverage. We found that Hawai'i's health insurers currently provide coverage for medically necessary cognitive rehabilitation therapy for patients with traumatic brain injuries that exceeds what would be mandated by the proposed legislation. For that reason, we suggest that, currently, it is unnecessary for the Legislature to mandate insurance coverage for medically necessary cognitive rehabilitation therapy for traumatic brain injury survivors.

The report is accessible through our website at <http://files.hawaii.gov/auditor/Reports/2017/17-13.pdf>.

If you have questions about the report or our work, generally, please contact me.

Very truly yours,

Leslie H. Kondo
State Auditor

c: Members of the Senate

Enclosure