

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 379

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 14 2019

RE: S.B. No. 527
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2019
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,
to which was referred S.B. No. 527 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CANNABIS FOR MEDICAL USE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to authorize and
regulate the manufacturing and sale of edible cannabis products,
including:

- (1) Establishing standards, including regulations and
education protocols, for edible cannabis products;
- (2) Requiring cannabis and manufactured cannabis products to
include a universal symbol developed by the Department
of Health; and
- (3) Requiring the Department of Health to implement a
cannabis product recall system.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Community Alliance on Prisons, O'ahu County Committee on
Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and
Hawai'i Educational Association for Licensed Therapeutic
Healthcare. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to
this measure from the Department of Transportation, Department of
Health, and Honolulu County Republican Party. Your Committee



received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Family Forum and one individual.

Your Committee finds that studies have shown the benefits of using medical cannabis to alleviate certain serious illnesses. Edible cannabis products can be an important alternative for medical cannabis patients who cannot tolerate other forms of cannabis ingestion. Your Committee further finds that several states currently permit the sale of edible cannabis products for medical use, although these states generally place restrictions on edible cannabis products.

Your Committee notes that in 2018, the Department of Health convened the Medical Cannabis Outstanding Issues Working Group, pursuant to Act 116, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018. The working group was tasked with making recommendations regarding the authorization and regulation of the manufacture and dispensing of edible cannabis products by licensed medical cannabis dispensaries. This measure incorporates all of the recommendations of the working group intended to enhance product safety, including setting standards for the manufacturing of edible cannabis products, requiring the use of a universal symbol, and implementation of a product recall system.

However, your Committee has heard the concerns raised in testimony regarding the legalization of manufactured cannabis products proposed by this measure. According to testimony from the Department of Health, edible cannabis products are responsible for the majority of cannabis intoxications, with children most likely to be affected. Edible cannabis products may be indistinguishable from cannabis-free counterparts and are meant to be palatable, which increases the risk of overdosing. Users may not realize the delayed effects of ingested cannabis, which may lead to overconsumption of edibles.

Your Committee appreciates these concerns and concludes that further discussions are needed regarding edible cannabis products. Convening a working group will be an effective way to continue discussions about the concerns raised in testimony.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:



- (1) Requiring the Department of Health to convene a working group to propose standards, regulations, protocols, and recommendations for legislation regarding edible medical cannabis products, including the development of a universal symbol and quality control procedures that emphasize a recall system for retail products;
- (2) Specifying the composition of the working group;
- (3) Requiring the working group to submit a report to the Legislature prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2020;
- (4) Removing language that would have authorized the manufacturing and sale of medical cannabis products; required the Department of Health to develop a universal symbol to be displayed on all cannabis and manufactured cannabis products; and required the Department of Health to implement a cannabis product recall system;
- (5) Updating its purpose section; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 527, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 527, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

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

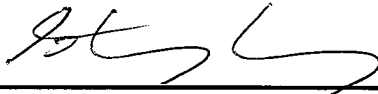


ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



The Senate
Thirtieth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
CPH

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 527	CPH, WAM	2/6/19		
<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)	✓			
CHANG, Stanley (VC)	✓			
KEOHOKALOOLE, Jarrett	✓			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.				✓
RUDERMAN, Russell E.	✓			
THIELEN, Laura H.	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
TOTAL	6			1
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