

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1410

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 25 , 2021

RE: S.B. No. 970
S.D. 2
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2021
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, to which was referred S.B. No. 970, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TELEHEALTH,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the establishment of a physician-patient relationship via a telehealth interaction, if the physician is licensed to practice medicine in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Hawaii Medical Board, Healthcare Association of Hawaii, Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii, Hawai'i Pacific Health, Hawai'i Public Health Institute, AARP Hawai'i, The Queen's Health Systems, Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition, Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i, and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the COVID-19 pandemic drastically changed how health care providers care for their patients. As a result of the pandemic, the State has seen an increase in the use of telehealth services, which provides a safe and easy way for patients to continue seeing their health care providers. Despite the convenience of telehealth, existing law remains ambiguous regarding whether a patient can use telehealth to establish a

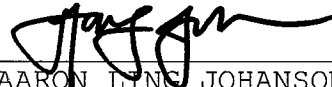
2021-2751 SB970 HD1 HSCR HMSO



physician-patient relationship. Your Committee believes that having the flexibility to establish a physician-patient relationship through a telehealth interaction will increase access to care for residents in the State.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 970, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

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



AARON LING JOHANSON, Chair



Record of Votes of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 970 SD2 HD 1	Committee Referral: PDP/HHH, CPC, FIN	Date: 3/23/21		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
CPC Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. JOHANSON, Aaron Ling (C)	✓			
2. KITAGAWA, Lisa (VC)	✓			
3. AQUINO, Henry J.C.	✓			
4. HAR, Sharon E.	✓			
5. HASHEM, Mark J.	✓			
6. KONG, Sam Satoru	✓			
7. MIZUNO, John M.	✓			
8. MORIKAWA, Dee	✓			
9. ONISHI, Richard H.K.	✓			
10. TARNAS, David A.	✓			
11. MATSUMOTO, Lauren	✓			
TOTAL (11)	11	0	0	0
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: <u><i>Lisa Kitagawa</i></u>				
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