STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1076-22

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 18 , 2022

RE: S.B. No. 2375

S.D. 1 H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki Speaker, House of Representatives Thirty-First State Legislature Regular Session of 2022 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness, to which was referred S.B. No. 2375, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SOCIAL WORK,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Public Safety, in collaboration with the Department of Human Services, to develop and establish a social work training program to assist incarcerated nonviolent individuals to explore a professional pathway in social work and become eligible to work as assistants to licensed social workers; and
- (2) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Community Alliance on Prisons, Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition, Hawaiii Health & Harm Reduction Center, The National Association of Social Workers Hawaiii Chapter, and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services, Department of Public Safety, and Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii is facing a shortage of social workers to help people in the State manage their mental health and cope with stressors in their everyday lives. Your Committee further finds that some nonviolent incarcerated individuals may be uniquely qualified to enter the field of social work as assistants. This measure will encourage incarcerated nonviolent individuals, who have valuable life experience interfacing with social service organizations, to train and pursue employment opportunities in the area of social work, which may help with these individuals' successful reentry into the community.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2060, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2375, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2375, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness,

A. YAMANE, Chair

State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Thirty-first Legislature

49CR 1076-22

Record of Votes of the Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness

Bill/Resolution No.: Committee SB 2375, SDI HHA	Referral:	FIV Date:	/15/2022	
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision			,,-,-	
The recommendation is to: Pass, unamended (as is) Pass, with amendments (HD) Hold Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
HHH Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. YAMANE, Ryan I. (C)	<u> </u>			
	and a same full factor and the same and the			
2. TAM, Adrian K. (VC)	V			
3. GATES, Cedric Asuega	V			
4. HAR, Sharon E.	V			
5. KAPELA, Jeanne	V			and the second of the second o
6. NISHIMOTO, Scott Y.				
	ed of Johnson Man			
7. WARD, Gene	V			
		1		
				
TOTAL (7)	1			
The recommendation is: If joint referral, did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				