STAND. COM. REP. NO. 531

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 1 4 2025 RE: S.B. No. 451 S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate Thirty-Third State Legislature Regular Session of 2025 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health and Human Services, to which was referred S.B. No. 451 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require the Department of Human Services to establish a Medicaid buy-in program for workers with disabilities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Hawaii Disability Rights Center, and one individual.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that it is advantageous for economic development in the State and in the best interests of its citizens with disabilities to establish programs and policies that encourage their employment. Your Committee further finds that a Medicaid buy-in program allows individuals with disabilities to maintain Medicaid coverage while working and earning above the federal poverty level. By expanding access to Medicaid, this measure helps individuals with disabilities achieve greater financial independence and access to essential health care



services, without the fear of losing coverage as they increase their earnings.

Your Committee has amended this measure by inserting an effective date of December 31, 2050, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health and Human Services that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 451, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 451, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

> Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Health and Human Services,

SAN BUENAVENTURA, Chair JOY



The Senate Thirty-Third Legislature State of Hawaiʻi

Record of Votes Committee on Health and Human Services HHS

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:			Date:	
SB 451	HHS, WAM			2/	12/25
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.					
The Recommendation is:					
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313					
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A. (C)					
AQUINO, Henry J.C. (VC)					
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.					
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett					
FEVELLA, Kurt					
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TOTAL		<u> </u>			
Recommendation: Adopted 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 <u>one</u> measure per Record of Votes