STAND. COM. REP. NO. 241 -06

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 10, 2006

RE: H.B. No. 1992 H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say Speaker, House of Representatives Twenty-Third State Legislature Regular Session of 2006 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 1992 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CIGARETTE TAX,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to provide increased healthcare in rural areas of the state by increasing the cigarette tax by 2.5 cents per cigarette to fund the maintenance and operation of federally qualified community health centers.

The American Heart Association of Hawaii, Hawaii Primary Care Association, and Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center supported this bill. The Department of Taxation opposed this measure. The Tax Foundation of Hawaii submitted comments.

Your Committee finds that tobacco use causes an overwhelming number of health problems throughout the state and, therefore, funds generated from the sale of tobacco products should be tapped to assist in treating those health problems caused by its use.

Your Committee has amended this bill by:

(1) Providing that native Hawaiian programs and programs that assist the uninsured, which focus on smoking cessation, prevention, education, and treatment of the diseases caused by smoking shall also be eligible for

funding from the Federally Qualified Community Health Center Special Fund; and

(2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1992, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1992, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Health,

DENNIS A. ARAKAKI, Chair

State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Twenty-third Legislature

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Record of Votes of the Committee on Health

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1992	Date:	2/01/01		
Committee Referral: HLT, FIN	☐ The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.			
The recommendation is to: Pass, unamended	Pass, with amendments			
☐ Hold	. 🗀 Re	commit		
HLT Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. ARAKAKI, Dennis A. (C)				
2. GREEN, Josh, M.D. (VC)				
3. CABANILLA, Rida T.R.				V
4. HALE, Heléne H.				
5. NISHIMOTO, Scott Y.				
6. SONSON, Alex M.	•			
7. HALFORD, Chris				
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TOTAL	3	1	0	3
The recommendation is:				
☐ Not Adopted				
If joint referral, did not support recommendation.				
committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Clerk's Office				