

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **S15**

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 16, 2007

RE: H.B. No. 10

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2007
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, to which
was referred H.B. No. 10 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PRESCRIPTION DRUGS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to make the Rx plus
prescription drug program more effective.

The bill accomplishes this by:

- (1) Requiring drug manufacturers that sell prescription
drugs to enter into a rebate program with the Department
of Human Services; and
- (2) Requiring the Department of Human Services to provide
health care providers with drug costs for manufacturers
who enter rebate agreements compared to the costs for
manufacturers who do not enter rebate agreements.

AARP Hawaii, Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans, Kokua
Council, Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs, Public Health
Committee of Faith Action for Community Equity, and ILWU Local 142
submitted testimony in support of the measure. The Pharmaceutical
Research and Manufacturers of America submitted testimony in
opposition to the measure, while the Department of Human Services
submitted comments.



Your Committee finds that the Rx plus program was established to provide access to affordable prescription drugs to Hawaii residents. Current law authorizes, but does not require, rebate agreements with drug manufacturers. By requiring drug manufacturers who do business in the State to provide quarterly rebates to the Department of Human Services, your Committee finds that prescription drugs may be made available at prices lower than those currently offered through Rx plus. The required disclosure of drug cost comparisons provides an added incentive for manufacturers to participate in a rebate agreement. Hawaii residents deserve the State's best efforts to obtain reasonably priced prescription drugs.

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 H.B. No. 10 and recommends that it be referred to the Committee on Finance.

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



ROBERT N. HERKES, Chair



HSCR 515

State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-fourth Legislature

Record of Votes of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Bill/Resolution No.: <div style="text-align: center;">HB 10</div>		Date: <div style="text-align: center;">February 14, 2007</div>		
Committee Referral: <div style="text-align: center;">HSH/HLT, CPC, FIN</div>		<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.		
The recommendation is to: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended <input type="checkbox"/> Hold </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments, for recommittal for further consideration </div> </div>				
CPC Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. HERKES, Robert N. (C)	X			
2. McKELVEY, Angus L.K. (VC)	X			
3. CALDWELL, Kirk				X
4. EVANS, Cindy	X			
5. GREEN, Josh, M.D.	X			
6. ITO, Ken	X			
7. LUKE, Sylvia				X
8. MORITA, Hermina M.	X			
9. SONSON, Alex M.	X			
10. SOUKI, Joseph M.	X			
11. TSUJI, Clift	X			
12. YAMANE, Ryan I.	X			
13. YAMASHITA, Kyle T.	X			
14. MARUMOTO, Barbara C.		X		
15. THIELEN, Cynthia	X			
TOTAL	12	1		2
The recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted </div> <div> If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <div style="text-align: center;">committee acronym(s)</div> </div> </div> <div style="margin-top: 20px;"> Vice Chair's or designee's signature: </div>				
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