STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1244

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 2 3 2007

RE: H.B. No. 1721

H.D. 1 S.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa President of the Senate Twenty-Fourth State Legislature Regular Session of 2007 State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 1721, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO VIOLENCE AGAINST EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish a criminal offense of:

- (1) Assault in the second degree if the person intentionally and knowingly causes bodily injury to any emergency medical services personnel who is engaged in the performance of duty; and
- (2) Terroristic threatening in the first degree if the person commits terroristic threatening against any emergency medical services personnel.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Healthcare Association of Hawaii and ten individuals.

Your Committee finds that emergency medical services personnel are at a heightened risk of personal injury or death from patients and others with whom they are in contact in the course of work. By the very nature of their job, they respond to people in distressful situations, including incidences of criminal violence, family disputes, and drunken brawls.

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The intent of this measure is to protect emergency medical services personnel and to deter violence against them. Your Committee acknowledges that much of the violence promulgates from explosive situations involving agitated people who lack momentary self-control. However, your Committee believes that emergency medical personnel should be afforded the same protection as correctional workers and educational workers.

Your Committee has amended this measure to take effect upon its approval.

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. 1721, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1721, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Labor.

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

And Noge DAVID & LOE, Chair

The Senate Twenty-Fourth Legislature State of Hawaii

Record of Votes Committee on Health HTH

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee		Da	te:	
HB 1721 HD1	ID1 HTH, JDL			7/1	2 /
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.					
If so, then the previous decision was to:					
The Recommendation is:					
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313					
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
IGE, David Y. (C)			····		
FUKUNAGA, Carol (VC)		V			
BAKER, Rosalyn H.		<u> </u>			
MENOR, Ron		V			
WHALEN, Paul					
	F0.522 486 46 40 40 40 40 40 11				
TOTAL		4			
Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted					
Chair's or Designee's Signature:					
Carol Juli maga					
Distribution: / Original Yellow Pink File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency					