STAND. COM. REP. NO. 715

Honolulu, Hawaii

Fe 5/6, 2007

RE: H.B. No. 1448 H.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 1448 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH CARE ZONES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish a joint advisory working group to address physician shortage conditions in the State by offering recommendations to resolve the shortage.

Specifically, the measure directs the working group to review physician densities in the State and designate three health care zones according to each zone's adequate, shortage, or critical physician shortage condition. The working group is also directed to submit recommendations on alleviating the physician shortage conditions to the Legislature, the Governor, and the public.

The Department of Health submitted comments on the bill.

Your Committee finds that healthcare shortages exist in many areas of the State and notes that there are federally designated health care professional shortage areas in all counties of the State, as noted in the Department of Health's testimony. After an area is designated as a health professional shortage area by the federal government, the area becomes eligible for various federal benefits intended to ease the health care professional shortage. The federal designation is based in part upon provider to population ratios, unlike the determination of physician shortages

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by density, as mandated by the bill. Your Committee believes this measure will enhance other existing initiatives that are focusing on increasing access to health care providers for the medically underserved in the State.

Your Committee has amended the measure by:

- (1) Adding the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Hawaii State Center for Nursing, University of Hawaii, as a member of the joint advisory working group; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to January 1, 2050, to facilitate further discussion on the measure.

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. 1448, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1448, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

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

JOSHUA B. GREEN, M.D., Chair

State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Twenty-fourth Legislature



Record of Votes of the Committee on Health

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1448 2-13-07				
Committee Referral:	☐ The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.			
The recommendation is to: Pass, unamended	Pass, with amendments			
☐ Hold	 Pass, with amendments, for recommittal for further consideration 			
HLT Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. GREEN, Josh, M.D. (C)				
2. MIZUNO, John (VC)				
3. BELATTI, Della Au				
4. BERTRAM, Joe, III				
5. CABANILLA, Rida T.R.	ta de la companya de	27		~
6. RHOADS, Karl	V			
7. SHIMABUKURO, Maile S. L.				
8. TAKAI, K. Mark				
9. TOKIOKA, James Kunane				1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
10. AWANA, Karen Leinani				:
11. WARD, Gene, Ph.D.	V			
TOTAL	10			l
The recommendation is:				
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☐ Not Adopted				
If joint referral, did not support recommendation.				
committee acronym(s)				
W. Cl. 1				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
Distribution: Original (White) - Committee Duplicate (Yellow) - Clerk's Office				