

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 325

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 20 2009

RE: S.B. No. 1610
S.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2009
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred S.B. No. 1610
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MEDICAL ORDERS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to clearly define the role of
physician assistants regarding medical orders issued to a
registered nurse by clarifying that:

- (1) Physician assistants may act as agents of a supervising
physician when issuing a medical order; and
- (2) A medical order issued by a physician assistant to a
registered nurse is a specific direction from the
supervising physician.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from Hawaii Medical Service Association, the Board of Nursing,
Puna Community Medical Center, and five individuals. The Hawaii
Academy of Physician Assistants submitted testimony in support of
the measure with amendments. Comments on this measure were
received from Kaiser Permanente and the Hawaii Medical Board.

Written testimony presented to the Committee may be reviewed
on the Legislature's website.

Your Committee finds that physician assistants serve a vital
role in the health care community. Clearly authorizing physician

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assistants to issue medical orders to be executed by nursing personnel will help to clear any ambiguities in the current statutes and ensure safe patient care in the hospital setting. The measure does not relieve physician assistants or registered nurses from exercising due care in performing within their respective scope of practice.

Your Committee has amended this measure by adopting the recommendations of the Hawaii Academy of Physician Assistants by:

- (1) Removing the requirement that the supervising physician must affirmatively authorize the physician assistant to issue a medical order;
- (2) Removing the requirement that a supervising physician must personally review patient records within seven days of the issuance of a medical order by a physician assistant;
- (3) Requiring the supervising physician to conduct record review in compliance with section 16-85-49, Hawaii Administrative Rules; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity 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 S.B. No. 1610, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1610, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

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



DAVID Y. IGE, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Health
HTH

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|--|---|---|----------|----------|
| Bill / Resolution No.:* <div style="font-size: 1.2em; margin-top: 5px;">SB 1610</div> | Committee Referral: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; margin-top: 5px;">HTH, CPN</div> | Date: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; margin-top: 5px;">2-11-9</div> | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____ | | | | |
| The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 </div> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313 </div> </div> | | | | |
| Members | Aye | Aye (WR) | Nay | Excused |
| IGE, David Y. (C) | ✓ | | | |
| GREEN, M.D., Josh (VC) | ✓ | | | |
| BAKER, Rosalyn H. | ✓ | | | |
| ESPERO, Will | ✓ | | | |
| NISHIHARA, Clarence K. | | | | ✓ |
| HEMMINGS, Fred | ✓ | | | |
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| TOTAL | 5 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted </div> | | | | |
| Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"> </div> | | | | |
| <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Distribution:</div> <div>Original</div> <div>Yellow</div> <div>Pink</div> <div>Goldenrod</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em; margin-top: 5px;"> <div>File with Committee Report</div> <div>Clerk's Office</div> <div>Drafting Agency</div> <div>Committee File Copy</div> </div> | | | | |

***Only one measure per Record of Votes**