STAND. COM. REP. NO. **3313**

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 0 5 2012

H.B. No. 2415 RE:

H.D. 2

S.D. 1

Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui President of the Senate Twenty-Sixth State Legislature Regular Session of 2012 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 2415, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MEDICAID,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to develop a strategy to provide working individuals with disabilities with access to affordable health care.

Specifically, the measure:

- Establishes a joint legislative task force to assist the (1) Department of Human Services in developing and implementing a medicaid buy-in program for working individuals with disabilities; and
- (2) Requires the Department of Human Services to implement a medicaid buy-in program based upon the recommendations of the task force by July 1, 2014.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Workforce Development Council; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; University of Hawaii Center on Disability Studies; and one individual.

Your Committee received written comments in opposition to this measure from the Department of Human Services.

HB2415 SD1 SSCR LRB 12-2351.doc



Your Committee finds that forty-five states have approved medicaid buy-in programs authorizing working individuals who have disabilities to retain their health care coverage through medicaid, despite having earnings that exceed the medicaid eligibility criteria. Implementing a medicaid buy-in program in Hawaii will provide an incentive for working individuals with disabilities to increase their contribution to the workforce, generating tax revenue and reducing expenses for the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that a joint legislative task force of representatives from government and private agencies that serve individuals with disabilities will marshal the knowledge and experience necessary to help the Department of Human Services to create a medicaid buy-in program.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2415, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

DAVID V SCE Chair

The Senate Twenty-Sixth Legislature State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes Committee on Ways and Means WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:			Date:	
HB2415 HD2 SD1	HMS,WAM			3-29-12	
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)					
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)					
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne					
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.					
ENGLISH, J. Kalani					
ESPERO, Will					
FUKUNAGA, Carol					
KIM, Donna Mercado					
KAHELE, Gilbert					
KOUCHI, Ronald D.					
RYAN, Pohai				_	
TOKUDA, Jill N.					·
WAKAI, Glenn					
SLOM, Sam	i s				
TOTAL		12	0	0	2
Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted					
Chair's or Designee's Signature:					
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy					