STAND. COM. REP. NO.

Honolulu, Hawaii February 8, 2013

RE: H.B. No. 178 H.D. 1

Honorable Joseph M. Souki Speaker, House of Representatives Twenty-Seventh State Legislature Regular Session of 2013 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, to which was referred H.B. No. 178 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONTINUING EDUCATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require licensed social workers in Hawaii to complete continuing education courses as a condition of license renewal.

Specifically, this measure requires licensed social workers in Hawaii to:

- Complete a minimum of fifteen credit hours of continuing education courses for the licensing renewal period beginning July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2016; and
- (2) Complete a minimum of forty-five credit hours of continuing education courses during each licensing renewal period beginning July 1, 2016.

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women, National Association of Social Workers, Hawaii Chapter, Hawaii Psychological Association, and eleven concerned individuals, including licensed social workers, and graduate students and professors of social work, submitted testimony in support of this measure.



STAND. COM. REP. NO. ,230 Page 2

Your Committee finds that licensed social workers provide necessary services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a broad spectrum of clients, many of whom are vulnerable or in crisis. However, unlike many other licensed professionals, social workers are not required to complete continuing education courses in order to renew their licenses. Hawaii is one of only three jurisdictions that do not require continuing education for social workers. Your Committee finds that this measure requiring licensed social workers to complete continuing education courses will ensure that licensed social workers in Hawaii maintain their professional competency and keep current with new developments in the practice of their profession.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to January 1, 2112, to encourage continued discussion on the measure.

HB178 HD1 HSCR LRB 13-1119.doc

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. 178, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 178, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

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

JS L.K. MCKELVEY, Chair

HSCR230

Record of Votes of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

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Bill/Resolution No.: HB 176 Committee	Committee Referral: CPC, FIN			Date: 2/6/13		
□ The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.						
The recommendation is to: □ Pass, unamended (as is) X Pass, with amendments (HD) □ Hold □ Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)						
CPC Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused		
1. McKELVEY, Angus L.K. (C)	1					
2. KAWAKAMI, Derek S.K. (VC)	V					
3. BELATTI, Della Au				\checkmark		
4. BROWER, Tom				/		
5. CABANILLA, Rida T.R.				~		
6. CACHOLA, Romy M.						
7. CARROLL, Mele				\checkmark		
8. EVANS, Cindy	V	1		/		
9. HAR, Sharon E.	(\checkmark		
10. ITO, Ken	1					
11. LEE, Chris	V					
12. TSUJI, Clift	1					
13. YAMANE, Ryan I.	1					
14. MCDERMOTT, Bob	1					
15. THIELEN, Cynthia	V					
TOTAL (15)	10	Ø	Ø	5		
The recommendation is: Adopted If joint referral did not support recommendation.						
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:						
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO						