

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

956

Honolulu, Hawaii

MARCH 3, 2017

RE: H.B. No. 1272
H.D. 1

Honorable Joseph M. Souki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2017
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Finance, to which was referred H.B. No. 1272, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO IMPROVING ACCESS TO
PSYCHIATRIC CARE FOR MEDICAID PATIENTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to expand access to psychiatric care for Medicaid recipients by specifying that the State's Medicaid program provide coverage for psychiatric care provided remotely through telecommunications services by a licensed psychiatrist who is located at a primary care provider's office and is accompanied by a qualified behavioral health care manager.

The Hawaii Medical Association, Effective Change, LLC, and a concerned individual testified in support of this measure. The Department of Human Services, Hawaii Psychiatric Medical Association, Hawaii Medical Service Association, and Hawaii Psychological Association provided comments.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1272, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

HB1272 HD1 HSCR FIN HMS 2017-2810



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



SYLVIA LUKE, Chair



