

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

2491

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 18 2022

RE: S.B. No. 2635
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2022
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred S.B. No. 2635
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COVERAGE FOR MAMMOGRAPHY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require insurers
and mutual benefit societies to cover mandated services for
mammography at least as favorably as coverage for other
radiological examinations, beginning January 1, 2023.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Hawaii Medical Association. Your Committee received
comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and
Consumer Affairs and Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that among the detrimental effects of
the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic are delays in receiving
routine health screenings and checkups, and in particular,
mammography screening for women in the State. According to the
Center for Disease Control, breast cancer screening declined by
eighty-seven percent during April 2020 as compared with previous
years. This is particularly problematic for women in the State,
as women of Asian ancestry represent a sizable percentage of the
population, and the ethnic group is the most likely to develop
breast cancer before age fifty. To increase access to important
health benefits for all women in the State, this measure requires



existing mammography benefits under certain health insurance plans to be at least as favorable as coverage for other radiological exams.

Your Committee acknowledges the testimony from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, which proposed amendments for consistency with existing law. Therefore, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making conforming amendments; and
- (2) Inserting an effective date of January 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion.

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. 2635, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2635, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

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



JARRETT KEOHOKALOOLE, Chair



