

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 23 2023

RE: H.B. No. 218
H.D. 2
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2023
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health and Human Services, to which was referred H.B. No. 218, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PRESCRIPTION DRUGS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Require certain pharmacies to:
 - (A) Provide accessible prescription drug label information to individuals who have difficulty seeing or reading prescription drug container labels; and
 - (B) Inform the public that prescription drug label information is available in alternate accessible formats for individuals who have difficulty seeing or reading prescription drug container labels; and
- (2) Require the Board of Pharmacy to adopt certain rules necessary for the purposes of this Act by December 31, 2025.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii, National



Organization of Parents of Blind Children, Hawaii Disability Rights Center, Hoopono, and eight individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Pharmacists Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services and Board of Pharmacy.

Your Committee finds that regulation of prescription drug labels is largely a state, not a federal, responsibility. Your Committee further finds that existing state law requires dispensing pharmacies to label each prescription drug container with specific information identifying the drug and providing information necessary for health and safety. However, individuals who have vision impairments may experience difficulty in reading the labels, leading them to inadvertently take the wrong type or dosage of medication at the wrong time or under the wrong instructions, thereby endangering their health and safety. This measure addresses this concern by requiring pharmacies to provide prescription drug label information in alternate accessible formats for individuals who are unable to effectively read standard printed prescription labels.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

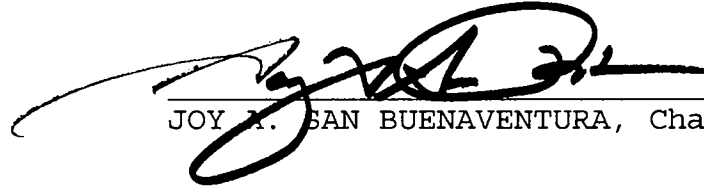
- (1) Requiring the Board of Pharmacy to adopt rules to carry out the purposes of this Act by December 31, 2024;
- (2) Requiring the Board of Pharmacy to adopt rules in accordance with this measure applicable to hospital pharmacies and manufacturers of medication who provide their products directly to consumers;
- (3) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health and Human Services that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 218, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 218,



H.D. 2, 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 and Human
Services,



JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Second Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Health and Human Services
HHS

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB 218 HD2	Committee Referral: HHS, CPN	Date: 3/20/23
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The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
 If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312
 Pass, with amendments 2311
 Hold 2310
 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A. (C)	✓			
AQUINO, Henry J.C. (VC)	✓			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.	✓			
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.	✓			
AWA, Brenton	✓			
TOTAL	5			

Recommendation:
 Adopted
 Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:

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*Only one measure per Record of Votes