

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 17 2023

RE: S.B. No. 608

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 S.B. No. 608 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 pharmacies to:
 - (A) Provide accessible prescription drug label information to individuals who have difficulty seeing or reading standard printed 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 by December 31, 2023.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Disability and Communication Access Board, National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii, Democratic Party of Hawai'i Kupūna Caucus, National Organization of Parents of Blind Children,



and nine individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services, Board of Pharmacy, and Walgreen Co.

Your Committee 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 and cannot see or read the labels may inadvertently take the wrong medication, the wrong amount, at the wrong time, and under the wrong instructions, thereby endangering their health and safety. This measure will reduce these concerns by requiring pharmacies to provide accessible prescription drug label information to individuals who need them.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an effective date of December 31, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) 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 S.B. No. 608, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 608, 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.:* <i>SB 608</i>	Committee Referral: <i>HHS, CPN</i>	Date: <i>2/8/23</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> 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	<i>4</i>			<i>1</i>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> 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				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes