

Honolulu, Hawaii

**APR 06 2023**

RE: H.B. No. 1300  
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 Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 1300, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish a framework for granting provisional, associate-level marriage and family therapist, mental health counselor, and psychologist licensure.

More specifically, this measure:

- (1) Requires the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to grant provisional associate marriage and family therapist, associate mental health counselor, and associate psychologist licensure to eligible individuals;
- (2) Establishes requirements for, and restrictions on, provisional associate marriage and family therapist, associate mental health counselor, and associate psychologist licenses;
- (3) Authorizes insurance reimbursements for certain services provided by supervised licensed associate marriage and



family therapists, supervised licensed associate mental health counselors, supervised associate psychologists, and supervised social work interns;

- (4) Requires each applicant for a psychologist license to possess a doctoral degree and complete one year of post-doctoral supervised experience in health service in psychology before sitting for the psychologist licensing examination;
- (5) Authorizes the Board of Psychology to grant waivers of state-employed clinical psychologist licensure requirements in certain circumstances; and
- (6) Appropriates moneys to the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to establish, recruit, and hire one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) office assistance V position and update the Department's Professional and Vocational Licensing Division's internal databases.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Hawaii State Council on Mental Health; AlohaCare; Catholic Charities Hawaii; Elemental Guidance, LLC; Erik E. Acuna, LCSW, LLC; Hawaii Psychological Association; National Association of Social Workers; Spill The Tea Cafe; The Hawaiian Islands Association for Marriage and Family Therapy; Xplor Counseling; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received written comments on this measure from the Board of Psychology, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Hawaii Chapter of The National Association of Social Workers, Hawaii Psychological Association, and The Hawaiian Islands Association for Marriage and Family Therapy.

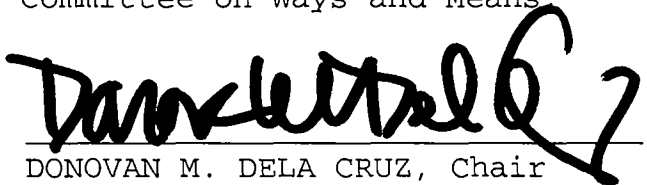
Your Committee finds that granting provisional, associate-level marriage and family therapist, mental health counselor, and psychologist licenses will help to satisfy the critical need for high-quality mental health practitioners in the State.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of



H.B. No. 1300, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.


Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Ways and Means

  
DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-Second Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Ways and Means**  
**WAM**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>HB 1300 HD2 SD</b>	Committee Referral: <b>WHS/CPN, WAM</b>	Date: <b>4/4/23</b>		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (VC)	X			
AQUINO, Henry J.C.	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	X			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X			
KIM, Donna Mercado	X			
LEE, Chris	X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.	X			
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.	X			
WAKAI, Glenn	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13</b>			
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original     Yellow     Pink     Goldenrod File with Committee Report     Clerk's Office     Drafting Agency     Committee File Copy				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes