

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

**3395**

Honolulu, Hawaii

**MAR 28 2024**

RE: S.R. No. 15  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-Second State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2024  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health and Human Services, to which was referred S.R. No. 15 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO AMEND THE HAWAII ADMINISTRATIVE RULES TO AUTHORIZE LICENSED DIETITIANS TO PRESCRIBE MODIFIED DIETS AND PLAN THERAPEUTIC DIETS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to urge the Department of Health to amend the Hawaii Administrative Rules to authorize licensed dietitians to prescribe modified diets and plan therapeutic diets.

Your Committee received no testimony on this measure.

Your Committee finds that the State has repeatedly and consistently been recognized by the federal government as a health professional shortage area. Your Committee also finds that registered dietitian nutritionists are recognized widely by physicians as the most qualified health care professionals to help patients with diet-related conditions; however, existing state regulations do not allow them to independently prescribe or plan diets for patients. Your Committee further finds that, while the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services announced a final rule authorizing each individual hospital system to grant registered dietitian nutritionists with privileges to



independently write diet orders without the supervision or approval of the physician, this authorization must be in conformance with state regulations. Accordingly, this measure urges critical amendments to the Hawaii Administrative Rules to allow hospitals to authorize dietitians to independently prescribe modified diets and plan therapeutic diets, thereby eliminating the need for physicians to do so, so that the physicians may focus on their respective areas of expertise.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment 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 concurs with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 15, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.R. No. 15, S.D. 1.

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.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SR 15	HHS	03/15/24		
<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)	✓			
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett	✓			
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.	✓			
AWA, Brenton				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	4			1
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