STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1092-24

Honolulu, Hawaii

, 2024

MAR 14

RE: S.B. No. 279

S.D. 1 H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki Speaker, House of Representatives Thirty-Second State Legislature Regular Session of 2024 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Human Services, to which was referred S.B. No. 279, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require Medicaid and private insurance coverage for ketamine therapy to treat depression; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for costs resulting from Medicaid coverage for ketamine therapy.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Beyond Mental Health; Kaiser Permanente Hawaii; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services; Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Hawaii Association of Health Plans; and Hawaii Medical Service Association.

Your Committee finds that ketamine therapy may relieve depressive symptoms and restore quality of life when all other treatments have failed. However, your Committee finds that this treatment can be cost prohibitive for many patients in Hawaii.

This measure therefore requires Medicaid and private insurance coverage of ketamine therapy for Hawaii residents suffering from treatment-resistant depression.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1)Clarifying the health care providers who are authorized to prescribe ketamine to treat depression; and
- Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the (2) purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 90, introduced during the Regular Session of 2024, is the concurrent resolution that specifically identifies this measure and requests the Auditor to prepare an impact assessment report on the mandated coverage of ketamine therapy, as is required pursuant to section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 279, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 279, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

> Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Human Services,

## State of Hawaii

House of Representatives
The Thirty-second Legislature

House of Representatives
The Thirty-second Legislature

## **Record of Votes of the Committee on Human Services**

	mittee Referral:	Date		
SB279, SDI HUS, CPC, FIN 03.12. 2024				
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: Pass, unamended (as is) Pass, with amendments (HD)  Hold				
Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
HUS Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. MARTEN, Lisa (C)	V			
		T. A. Hit is		
2. AMATO, Terez (VC)				
3. BELATTI, Della Au				
4. ILAGAN, Greggor				
5 VODAVASHI Pantuari			5 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	
5. KOBAYASHI, Bertrand			Our Constitution of	
6. TAKENOUCHI, Jenna	CONTRACTOR OF STREET			
Tricker of the state of the sta				
7. NISHIMOTO, Scott Y.		<b>33.42</b> 91.7		
	The state of the s			
8. GARCIA, Diamond				
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TOTAL (0)				
TOTAL (8)	+	<u> </u>		0
The recommendation is:  Adopted  Not Adopted				
If joint referral, did not support recommendation.  committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				