

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

258

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 10, 2025

RE: H.B. No. 702
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness, to which was referred H.B. No. 702 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to increase the funding for Medicaid in-home services, conditioned on the Department of Human Services obtaining the maximum federal matching funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Executive Office on Aging; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that many of Hawaii's kupuna prefer to age in place, relying on in-home services for essential support such as meal preparation, cleaning, personal care, and mobility assistance. A 2021 study found that eighty-three percent of residents aged forty-five and older consider staying in their homes as they age to be extremely or very important. However, low Medicaid reimbursement rates for in-home care services make it difficult for providers to sustain operations, limiting access to care for Medicaid clients. To address this issue, this measure increases Medicaid reimbursement rates for in-home services,

2025-1362 HB702 HD1 HSCR HMSO



ensuring fair compensation for providers and improving access to critical care for those in need.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully respects your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider that the amount of general funds needed to reach the "high" level of compensation for in-home services is \$16,530,000, which is \$6,790,000 more than in the Governor's budget request.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 702, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 702, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Human Services &
Homelessness,



LISA MARTEN, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Thirty-third Legislature

MSCR 258

Record of Votes of the Committee on Human Services & Homelessness

Bill/Resolution No.: HB702	Committee Referral: HSH, FIN	Date: 2/4/2025		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
HSH Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. MARTEN, Lisa (C)	X			
2. OLDS, Ikaika (VC)	X			
3. AMATO, Terez	X			
4. CHUN, Cory M.	X			
5. KEOHOKAPU-LEE LOY, Sue L.	X			
6. TAKAYAMA, Gregg	X			
7. TAKENOUCHI, Jenna	X			
8. ALCOS III, David	X			
9. GARCIA, Diamond				X
TOTAL (9)	8			1
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> 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				