

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1528

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 25

, 2025

RE: H.C.R. No. 185.

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

Madame:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.C.R. No. 185 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL ASSESSMENT OF PROPOSED MANDATORY HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN HEALING AND CULTURAL PRACTICES OFFERED THROUGH FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTERS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to request the Auditor to conduct a social and financial assessment of proposed mandatory health insurance coverage for Native Hawaiian healing and cultural practices offered through federally qualified health centers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Waimānalo Health Center; Hāna Health; Mālama I Ke Ola Health Center; Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Leeward Massage Therapy Center; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Papa Ola Lōkahi.

Your Committee finds that although multiple federally qualified health centers in the State offer Native Hawaiian healing practices in tandem with other western health care practices, only two health insurers voluntarily provide coverage for these services. Your Committee further finds that House Bill No. 641, Regular Session of 2025 (HB641), proposes requiring,

2025-2908 HCR185 HSCR HMSO



among other things, all health insurers in the State to cover Native Hawaiian healing and cultural practices offered through federally qualified health centers, which would be considered a new mandated health insurance benefit.

Your Committee further finds that, pursuant to sections 23-51 and 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the social and financial impact of a proposed mandated health insurance benefit must be assessed by the Auditor before it can be enacted into law. This measure therefore requests the Auditor to conduct a statutorily required impact assessment report on the social and financial effects of the new mandated health insurance benefit proposed by HB641.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 185 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Health,



GREG TAKAYAMA, Chair



