STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1268

Honolulu, Hawaii

Meahlb, 2007

RE: S.B. No. 1779 H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say Speaker, House of Representatives Twenty-Fourth State Legislature Regular Session of 2007 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Human Services & Housing, to which was referred S.B. No. 1779 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CHILDREN,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to ensure the safety and well-being of Hawaii's children by establishing a two-year statewide task force to review, assess, and make recommendations on the State's system responses to cases of sexual crimes committed against and by children.

The Department of Human Services, Honolulu Police Department, Friends of the Children's Justice Center of Maui, Inc., Hawaii Family Forum, Roman Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii, Child and Family Service, and Sex Abuse Treatment Center testified in support of this bill. The Department of Education and Children's Justice Center supported the intent of this measure.

Your Committee recognizes that Hawaii's children must be protected from many forms of abuse and exploitation and must be nurtured in the most stable environment available. Thus, it is also important to address the needs of children by improving the law as it pertains to permanent guardianship of children who fall under the provisions of the Child Protective Act.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this bill by:

- (1) Inserting the provisions of H.B. No. 1357, H.D. 1, which allow the Family Court to pursue the option of legal guardianship for a child in appropriate cases; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1779, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1779, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

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

MAILE SHIMABUKURO, Chair

State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Twenty-fourth Legislature

HSUR 1268

Record of Votes of the Committee on Human Services & Housing

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 1779		Date: 03/15	107			
Committee Reformale						
HSH, JUD, FIN		☐ The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to:	he recommendation is to: Pass, unamended		Pass, with amendments			
☐ Hold		☐ Pass, with amendments, for recommittal for further consideration				
HSH Mem	bers	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused	
1. SHIMABUKURO, Ma	aile S. L. (C)	/				
2. RHOADS, Karl (VC)						
3. BELATTI, Della Au						
4. BERTRAM, Joe, III						
5. CABANILLA, Rida T	.R.	ー				
6. GREEN, Josh, M.D.						
7. MIZUNO, John						
8. TAKAI, K. Mark						
9. TOKIOKA, James Ku	nane	V,				
10. AWANA, Karen Leina	ani					
11. WARD, Gene, Ph.D.						
TOTAL		9	l		l	
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) – Clerk's Office						