STAND. COM. REP. NO. 140(

Honolulu, Hawaii

H.C.R. No. 304

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say Speaker, House of Representatives Twenty-Fifth State Legislature Regular Session of 2009 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Human Services, to which was referred H.C.R. No. 304 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE HUMAN-RIGHTS ATROCITIES AND VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN IN NORTHERN UGANDA AND THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, AND URGING CONGRESS TO LEAD THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IN EFFORTS TO PROTECT THE CHILDREN OF UGANDA AND THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this concurrent resolution is to:

- condemn the human rights atrocities and violence against children in northern Uganda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo;
- urge Congress to lead the international community in efforts to protect the children of Uganda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

Testimony in support was submitted by the Invisible Children of Hawaii Club and a concerned individual.

Your Committee finds the human rights atrocities and violence committed by the Lord's Resistance Army affect children the most. These victims of the twenty-three year civil war in Uganda have faced enslavement, sexual exploitation, and forced soldiering. So far, over 5,000 children are believed to be serving in the Ugandan People's Defense Forces against the Lord's Resistance Army, where

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countless other children are soldiering involuntarily. The use of children soldiers has resulted in thousands of murders, at least twice that number of children abducted, and nearly two million people displaced from their homes.

The United Nations Security Council President, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the State Department's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor have all openly and publicly condemned these acts of violence and human rights violations. Your Committee also wishes to express its disapproval and condemnation of the Lord's Resistance Army's leadership and acts of human rights violations. They would also like to urge both the Government of Uganda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo to abolish child soldiering in their armed forces.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 304 and recommends that it be referred to the Committee on Tourism, Culture, & International Affairs.

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

OHN M. MIZUNO, Chai



## State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Twenty-fifth Legislature

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

☐ 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 (WR) Nays Exc	cused	
1. MIZUNO, John M. (C)		
2. BROWER, Tom (VC)		
3. BELATTI, Della Au	/	
4. BERTRAM, Joe, III		
5. CARROLL, Mele		
6. NISHIMOTO, Scott Y.		
6. NISHIMOTO, Scott Y.	1000	
7. SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.	N. a. Succession	
8. YAMANE, Ryan I.	_	
9. WARD, Gene		
TOTAL (9)	3	
The recommendation is:  Adopted  If joint referral, did not support recommendation.  committee acronym(s)		
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: Tom Bruwn		
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO		