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STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

P. O. Box 339 Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

April 7, 2011

LATE TESTIMONY

MEMORANDUM

TO:

The Honorable Gilbert C.S. Keith -Agaran, Chair

Committee on Judiciary

FROM:

Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT:

H.C.R. 132/H.R. 123 - REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF THE

ATTORNEY GENERAL TO REVIEW CONFIDENTIALITY LAWS
PERTAINING TO COURT INVOLVED, MULTI-AGENCY YOUTH

Hearing:

Thursday, April 7, 2011; 2:00 p.m.

Conference Room 325, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of these resolutions is to request the Department of Attorney General to review confidentiality laws pertaining to court involved, multi-agency youth.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services supports the intent of these resolutions. The challenges we face with our at-risk youth will never be overcome if information is not shared between agencies.

Accordingly, with the concurrence of the Department of the Attorney General, the DHS supports a review of existing federal and state laws relating to shared information concerning at-risk youth. The recommendations made should enhance the ability of schools, social service agencies, courts, and the juvenile and criminal justice systems to share information while safeguarding and protecting the rights of juveniles and their families.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

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