

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3241

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 05 2012

RE: H.B. No. 2685
H.D. 2
S.D. 2

Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui
President of the Senate
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2012
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 2685, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, entitled:

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

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require the Department of Human Services to conduct a study to evaluate current asset limits for public assistance programs, including the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, and assess the effects of changing the asset limits for those programs.

Written comments in support of this measure were submitted by the Department of Human Services, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and Hawaii Alliance for Community-Based Economic Development.

Your Committee finds that public assistance programs currently limit eligibility to those with few or no assets to ensure that limited public resources reach individuals and families most in need. However, your Committee also finds that asset limits can discourage the saving of money and prevent families from making investments that could help them to escape poverty. Your Committee believes that the study described in this measure is necessary to determine the most appropriate manner of addressing asset limits for public assistance programs.



Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the study shall include information on promising activities, policies, and trends relating to asset limits; and
- (2) Making technical nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2685, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2685, H.D. 2, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,



DAVID Y. IGE, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Sixth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB2685 HD2 SD1	Committee Referral: HMS, WAM	Date: 3-28-12		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312</div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311</div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310</div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313</div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
IGE, David Y. (C)	✓			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)	✓			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	✓			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.	✓			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	✓			
ESPERO, Will				/
FUKUNAGA, Carol	✓			
KIM, Donna Mercado				/
KAHELE, Gilbert	✓			
KOUCHI, Ronald D.				/
RYAN, Pohai	✓			
TOKUDA, Jill N.	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn	✓			
SLOM, Sam		/		
TOTAL	10	1	0	3
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: small;"> <div>Distribution:</div> <div>Original</div> <div>Yellow</div> <div>Pink</div> <div>Goldenrod</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: x-small;"> <div>File with Committee Report</div> <div>Clerk's Office</div> <div>Drafting Agency</div> <div>Committee File Copy</div> </div>				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes