STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2698

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 0 2 2012

RE: S.B. No. 2095

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 S.B. No. 2095, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to address the increased caseload that followed the United States Department of Agriculture's mandate to amend supplemental nutrition assistance program income eligibility requirements, which increased the number of potential beneficiaries of the program.

Specifically, this measure makes an appropriation to the Department of Human Services to provide the resources for the Department to respond to the increased caseload.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from one person.

Your Committee finds that by implementing the expanded categorical eligibility provision, which allows individuals with incomes of no more than 200 per cent of the federal poverty level to be eligible for the supplemental nutrition assistance program, the Department of Human Services has experienced an increase in its caseload. Since October 2010, the Department's caseload increased 12.6 per cent, and from July 1, 2008, to June 30, 2011, the caseload increased 63 per cent. The increased caseload, coupled with the Department's substantial workforce reduction and

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lost time due to furloughs, caused the Department to miss federally mandated deadlines for processing program applications, which then resulted in a preliminary injunction against the Department.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2050, to facilitate further discussion on the measure; and
- (2) Making technical nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of style, clarity, and consistency.

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 S.B. No. 2095, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2095, S.D. 2.

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

DAVID Y. TGE Char

The Senate Twenty-Sixth Legislature State of Hawaiʻi

Record of Votes Committee on Ways and Means WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:			Date:	
5B 2095, SDI	Has, wam			2-29-12	
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.					
If so, then the previous decision was to:					
The Recommendation is:					
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313					
Members	:	Aye	Aye (WF	R) 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	_		٠,		/
KOUCHI, Ronald D.					
RYAN, Pohai					
TOKUDA, Jill N.				<u> </u>	
WAKAI, Glenn					
SLOM, Sam		**			V
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TOTAL		10	0	0	4
Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted					
Chair's or Designee's Signature: huhille & Kulani					
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy					