

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 15 2012

RE: S.B. No. 2796

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Human Services, to which was referred S.B.
No. 2796 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DEATH BENEFITS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Make permanent the payment of a reduced lump-sum death benefit by the Department of Human Services for certain deceased medical and financial assistance recipients; and
- (2) Establish that the Department of Human Services may bear the cost for crematory and mortuary services for unclaimed dead human bodies upon a determination by the Department that a human dead body is unclaimed.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that pursuant to part II of Act 205, Session Laws of Hawaii 2010, the Department of Human Services is authorized to pay a lump-sum death benefit for a deceased medical and financial assistance recipient in a reduced amount, equal to the Social Security Administration's one-time lump-sum death benefit of \$255 if the recipient is ineligible for the Social



Security Administration's lump-sum death benefit. Savings from this change in the death benefit was approximately \$306,000 last year. Your Committee also finds that Act 205, Session Laws of Hawaii 2010, has a repeal date of June 30, 2012. This measure makes the reduced death benefit amount permanent, enabling the Department to realize necessary cost savings.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2796 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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

Suzanne Chun Oakland

SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Sixth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Human Services
HMS

Bill / Resolution No.:* <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">SB 2796</div>	Committee Referral: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">Hms wam</div>	Date: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">2/9/12</div>		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input 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
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne (C)	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les (VC)	✓			
GREEN, M.D., Josh	✓			
SLOM, Sam				✓
TOTAL	3	0	0	1
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted </div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive; text-align: center;">Les Ihara Jr.</div>				
Distribution: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 5px;"> <div>Original File with Committee Report</div> <div>Yellow Clerk's Office</div> <div>Pink Drafting Agency</div> <div>Goldenrod Committee File Copy</div> </div>				

***Only one measure per Record of Votes**