

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

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

February 2, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO:

The Honorable John M. Mizuno, Chair

House Committee on Human Services

FROM:

Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT:

H.B. 2539 - RELATING TO ADULT ABUSE PERPETRATOR

CHECKS FOR CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

Hearing:

Thursday, February 2, 2012; 8:30 a.m.

Conference Room 329, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of H.B. 2539 is to allow the Department of Human Services (DHS) to conduct adult abuse perpetrator checks on child care providers who are exempt from licensing and registration pursuant to section 346-152, Hawaii Revised Statutes, who care for children that receive child care subsidies from the department, and on prospective applicants and licensed child care providers.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services strongly supports this Administration bill. DHS responsible for ensuring the safety and health of children both in regulated settings such as licensed child care centers and for child care providers who care for children that receive child care subsidies from the Department.

This bill will allow the Department to conduct a more thorough check on the character of the individuals who are working directly with children in licensed and legally exempt settings by identifying individuals who have a history of maltreatment of vulnerable individuals.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this bill.

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