

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

364

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 20 2015

RE: S.B. No. 352
S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2015
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Human Services and Housing, to which was referred S.B. No. 352 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ADOPTION RECORDS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to provide adoptees who have attained eighteen years of age unfettered access to the adoptee's adoption records.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that it is difficult for adoptees to obtain access to their adoption records because Hawaii's adoption record law conditions access to adoption records on birthparent approval. Historically, adoptees' access to adoption records was limited due to the prevailing idea that adopted children were better off if they were unaware of their adoption. Your Committee finds, however, that current research indicates that the secrecy surrounding adoption actually has detrimental effects on adoptees and that adoptees have a significant interest in learning their familial history for various reasons, including for purposes related to health care diagnosis and treatment.

Your Committee has amended this measure by inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion.



As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services and Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 352, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 352, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Labor.

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

Suzanne Chun Oakland

SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Human Services and Housing
HSH

Bill / Resolution No.:* <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">SB 352</div>	Committee Referral: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">HSH, JDL</div>	Date: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">2/17/15</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 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
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne (C)	✓			
GREEN, Josh (VC)	✓			
HARIMOTO, Breene	✓			
RIVIERE, Gil	✓			
SLOM, Sam	✓			
TOTAL	5	0	0	0
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <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; margin-left: 20px;">JDL</div>				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <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: 0.8em; margin-top: 5px;"> <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