S.R. NO. 4

JAN 1 9 2017

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO ADOPT ADMINISTRATIVE RULES TO BAN SMOKING AND THE USE OF ELECTRONIC SMOKING DEVICES IN FOSTER CARE HOMES.

WHEREAS, according to the American Cancer Society, there is no safe level of exposure for secondhand smoke as secondhand smoke has the same harmful chemicals that smokers inhale; and

WHEREAS, according to the American Lung Association, while electronic smoking devices do not contain smoke, they still expose people to secondhand emissions containing formaldehyde and other harmful carcinogens; and

WHEREAS, making a home smoke-free may be one of the most important things that can be done for the benefit of the family; and

WHEREAS, according to the Public Health Law Center at William Mitchell College of Law, numerous states prohibit smoking in foster homes and vehicles when a foster child is present or otherwise prohibit exposure of a foster child to secondhand smoke; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii should join those states that protect children in foster care from exposure to secondhand smoke and emissions from electronic smoking devices; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Human Services has regulatory jurisdiction over foster care homes; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017, that the Department of Human Services is urged to adopt administrative rules to ban smoking and the use of electronic smoking devices in foster care homes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human Services.

OFFERED BY:

June of Bake