1263

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 2 2 2023

RE:

H.B. No. 579

H.D. 2 S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate Thirty-Second State Legislature Regular Session of 2023 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health and Human Services, to which was referred H.B. No. 579, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a statewide Human Trafficking Prevention Program within the Department of the Attorney General to provide services and assistance to commercially sexually exploited children and victims of human trafficking; and
- (2) Require the Department of the Attorney General to report to the Legislature on the State's efforts to address the commercial sexual exploitation of children and human trafficking.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Catholic Charities Hawaii, Zonta Club of Hilo, and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii has the highest rate of missing persons per capita in the nation. Collaboration between departments, federal and state law enforcement, stakeholders, and providers is critical to locating victims and helps minimize the duplication of efforts across entities. To promote more structured, systematic, streamlined collaboration between agencies, this measure establishes a statewide program to address human trafficking.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Department of the Attorney General to submit a report on the State's efforts to address the commercial sexual exploitation of children to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2026, rather than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2024;
 - (2) Requiring the Department of the Attorney General to submit a report on the State's efforts to address human trafficking to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2027, rather than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2025;
 - (3) Inserting an effective date of June 30, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
 - (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health and Human Services that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 579, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 579, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committees on Judiciary and Ways and Means.

STAND. COM. REP. NO. Page 3

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

BUENAVENTURA, Chair

The Senate Thirty-Second Legislature State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes Committee on Health and Human Services HHS

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:			Date:			
HB 579 HD2	HHS, JDC/WAM			03	03/13/23		
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 (W	R)	Nay	Excused	
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A. (C)		/			·		
AQUINO, Henry J.C. (VC)							
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.							
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.							
AWA, Brenton		V					
TOTAL				\dashv			
TOTAL)					
Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted							
Chair's or Designee's Signature:							
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy							

*Only one measure per Record of Votes