

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 14, 2006

RE: H.B. No. 2057
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2006
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 2057
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to honor certain cultural and
religious practices by allowing hospitals, after appropriate
testing for infections or hazards, to release a placenta to the
woman from whom the placenta originated.

The Waikiki Hawaiian Civic Club, Native Hawaiian Legal
Corporation, Kaiser Permanente Hawaii, Hawaii Women's Coalition,
ACLU of Hawaii, Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of
Hawaii, Papa Ola Lokahi, and numerous concerned individuals
supported this bill. The Department of Health submitted comments.

Your Committee recognizes the value of respecting the diverse
cultures and religious practices of the people of our state. Your
Committee notes that the release of a placenta is done for
religious and cultural reasons. It is the intent of your
Committee to allow for the continuation of this practice only for
religious and cultural reasons.

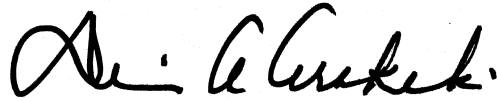


Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Allowing hospitals to release the placenta to an individual designated by the woman from whom the placenta originated; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for style, clarity, and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2057, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2057, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Health,



DENNIS A. ARAKAKI, Chair



