

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **2429**

Honolulu, Hawaii

FOB 17, 2006

RE: S.B. No. 2162
S.D. 1

Honorable Robert Bunda
President of the Senate
Twenty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2006
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Human Services, to which was referred S.B. No. 2162 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FOSTER CHILDREN,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to allow a child in foster custody to apply for a driver's license with the written consent of the Director of Human Services, to require the child's biological parents to pay for motor vehicle insurance on behalf of the child, and to authorize the payment of higher education board allowances to be paid directly to former foster children.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the measure from the Department of Human Services, the Domestic Violence Clearinghouse and Legal Hotline, Hawaii Foster Youth Coalition, the Hawaii Youth Services Network, Legal Aid Society of Hawaii, and eighty-three individuals. The Hawaii Insurers Council submitted comments regarding this measure.

Your Committee finds that this measure gives foster children an opportunity to obtain a driver's license with the Director of Human Services' authorization; an opportunity they might not otherwise have because their biological parents are unavailable to grant permission. Your Committee further finds that this measure will remove the financial burden of providing vehicle insurance for a young driver from the foster parents by making the biological parents responsible for paying the costs of insuring their children, unless a court determines that the parents cannot

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pay, in which case the State shall provide the child with insurance coverage.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2162, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2162, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs.

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


SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, Chair



