

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

424

Honolulu, Hawaii

February 15, 2007

RE: H.B. No. 523  
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2007  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Human Services & Housing, to which was referred H.B. No. 523 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CHILDREN,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to support foster children by:

- (1) Requiring the Department of Human Services (DHS) to ensure that the provision of care to foster children are within certain guiding principles; and
- (2) Allowing the family court to issue orders to the Department of Education to ensure that the rights of foster children are upheld.

The Legal Aid Society of Hawaii testified in support of this bill. DHS supported the intent of this measure.

Your Committee has amended this bill by:

- (1) Allowing the family court to also issue orders to DHS and the Department of Health;
- (2) Changing the term "rights" to "principles", with regard to orders issued by the family court; and

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- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 523, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 523, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

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

  
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MAILE SHIMABUKURO, Chair



