

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

965

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 02 2007

RE: S.B. No. 691
S.D. 2

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2007
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 691, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Education to provide suitable transportation to and from school and for educational field trips for all children in grades kindergarten to twelve and in special education classes.

The Hawaii School Bus Association submitted comments in support of this measure. The Department of Education submitted comments.

Your Committee finds that part of providing a proper education to public school students throughout the State includes the provision of safe, reliable, and consistent transportation to and from school and for educational excursions. Currently, the Department of Education provides transportation services to students living outside of Honolulu proper, with some exceptions, and those living beyond a mile away from school.

Many other students may not require transportation services because they live in areas that are serviced by the City and County of Honolulu bus system, are attending schools under a geographic exemption, or do not proceed directly home after school. Your Committee understands that requiring the Department

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of Education to provide transportation services to all public school students could be a costly endeavor and a major undertaking.

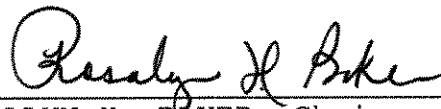
Your Committee is most concerned with ensuring that the current level of transportation services provided to students is not diminished or, if necessary, that such changes are not executed without input from interested parties, including parents. The establishment of a process to allow stakeholders to participate in changes to current policies and procedures will help to ensure that the transportation needs of the students are being met.

Your Committee has amended this bill by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2050 to facilitate further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical nonsubstantive change for the purpose of style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 691, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 691, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,



ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Fourth Legislature
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 691 SDI	Committee Referral: EDU, WAM	Date: 2/20/07		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (C)	X			
TSUTSUI, Shan S. (VC)				X
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	X			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani				X
FUKUNAGA, Carol	X			
HOOSER, Gary L.	X			
KIM, Donna Mercado	X			
MENOR, Ron	X			
TOKUDA, Jill N.	X			
HEMMINGS, Fred	X			
WHALEN, Paul				X
TOTAL	8	0	0	3
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align:center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.5em;">Jim</div>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes