

JAN 24 2007

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CHILDREN.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 96, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
2 by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and to read
3 as follows:

4 "PART II. OFFICE OF THE CHILDREN'S OMBUDSMAN

5 §96- Office of the children's ombudsman. (a) There is
6 established the office of the children's ombudsman in the office
7 of the ombudsman, for administrative purposes only, to
8 investigate any complaint regarding an administrative act of an
9 agency that the children's ombudsman determines to be related to
10 the protection of children's rights.

11 (b) The office of the children's ombudsman shall be headed
12 by the children's ombudsman.

13 (c) The children's ombudsman shall:

14 (1) Be hired by the ombudsman; and

15 (2) Have knowledge of the legal system, the juvenile
16 justice system, the child welfare system, and be



1 qualified by training and experience to perform the
2 responsibilities of this part.

3 (d) In carrying out this part, the children's ombudsman
4 shall have all of the rights, responsibilities, and limitations
5 of the ombudsman pursuant to part I, except that the children's
6 ombudsman may investigate any complaint involving the non-
7 adjudicatory functions of the judiciary."

8 SECTION 2. Chapter 96, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
9 by designating sections 96-1 to 96-19, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
10 as part I and adding a title before section 96-1, Hawaii Revised
11 Statutes, to read as follows:

12 "PART I. GENERAL PROVISIONS"

13 SECTION 3. Chapter 96, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
14 by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately designated
15 and to read as follows:

16 "§96- Children's rights. The ombudsman shall refer any
17 complaint regarding an administrative act of an agency that the
18 ombudsman determines to be related to the protection of
19 children's rights to the children's ombudsman."

20 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$, or so
22 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and



S.B. NO. 1645

1 the same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
2 year 2008-2009, to establish an office of the children's
3 ombudsman.

4 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the ombudsman
5 for the purposes of this Act.

6 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

7 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
8 provided that section 4 shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

9

INTRODUCED BY: *Carol Fukuoka*
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Report Title:

Appropriation; Office of the Children's Ombudsman

Description:

Establishes an office of the children's ombudsman within the office of the ombudsman for administrative purposes; appropriates funds.

