

Honolulu, Hawaii

January 29, 2008

RE: H.B. No. 2043
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2008
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Human Services & Housing, to which was referred H.B. No. 2043 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION BOARD ALLOWANCE FOR FORMER FOSTER YOUTH,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to expand post-secondary education opportunities for former foster youth by:

- (1) Increasing to 21 years of age, the time limit for an application for a higher education board allowance;
- (2) Providing former foster youth who are between the ages of 22 and 26 years of age on July 1, 2008, and who are already attending or have been accepted to attend a higher education institution, the opportunity to apply for a higher education board allowance within a year;
- (3) Extending the maximum benefit length to 66 months following entry into an accredited institution of higher education; and
- (4) Appropriating funds to provide higher education board allowances for eligible former foster youth.



The Hawaii Family Forum, Legal Aid Society of Hawaii, Hawaii Family Support Institute, Hawaii Foster Youth Coalition, Hawaii Foster Parent Association, and several concerned individuals testified in support of this bill. The Department of Human Services and Office of Hawaiian Affairs supported the intent of this measure.

Your Committee has amended this bill by:

- (1) Increasing the age of eligibility for higher education board allowances from 21 to 26 years;
- (2) Changing the length of the benefit to 60 cumulative months;
- (3) Removing the appropriation sections; and
- (4) 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. 2043, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2043, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Higher Education.

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



MAILE SHIMABUKURO, Chair



#SCR 9-08

State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-fourth Legislature

Record of Votes of the Committee on Human Services & Housing

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 2043	Committee Referral: HSH, HED, FIN	Date: January 24, 2008
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The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.

The recommendation is to: Pass, unamended (as is) Pass, with amendments (HD) Hold
 Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)

HSH Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. SHIMABUKURO, Maile S. L. (C)	X			
2. RHOADS, Karl (VC)	X			
3. AWANA, Karen Leinani	X			
4. BELATTI, Della Au				X
5. BERTRAM, Joe, III				X
6. CABANILLA, Rida T.R.	X			
7. GREEN, Josh, M.D.	X			
8. MIZUNO, John	X			
9. TOKIOKA, James Kunane	X			
10. WARD, Gene, Ph.D.	X			
TOTAL (10)	8			2

The recommendation is: Adopted Not Adopted
 If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation.
committee acronym(s)

Vice Chair's or designee's signature: *Karl Rhoads*

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