

Honolulu, Hawaii

Aj-01 , 2008

RE: H.R. No. 238
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 Health, to which was referred H.R. No. 238
entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
TO CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON IMPROVING HAWAII'S SAFE
HAVEN LAW BY REQUIRING THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE NEWBORN
CHILD AND PERSON PRESENTING THE NEWBORN CHILD TO SAFE HAVEN
PERSONNEL BEFORE ACCEPTING THE NEWBORN CHILD AND THE EFFICACY
OF SAFE HAVEN LAWS IN OTHER STATES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to seek the best practices for
Hawaii's baby safe haven law and to have the department of human
services report on their work since Act 7 of the 2007 Special
Session was passed on July 10, 2007.

The primary focus of this resolution is the health and safety
of the child. Your Committee finds that if the life of a newborn
baby is saved because the mother is able to safely surrender her
baby at a hospital or other baby safe haven instead of abandoning
the child in a life threatening situation, then this would
accomplish its goal.

Moreover, this resolution seeks to determine the best
practices and to seek the feasibility of obtaining the
identification of the parents and newborn baby prior to the safe
surrender at a baby safe haven.



The Department of Health opposed this resolution.

Your Committee has amended the resolution by changing the title and contents of the resolutions to seek best practices from other states concerning their baby safe haven laws and to have the department of human services report their progress, if any, of ensuring the safety of newborn babies pursuant to the enactment of Act 7 of 2007 Special Session and to report said information to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the convening of the 2009 Legislative session.

Additional amendments were made by making technical, nonsubstantive changes for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 238, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to the Committee on Judiciary in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 238, H.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Health,



JOSHUA B. GREEN, M.D., Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-fourth Legislature

HSCR 1943-08

Record of Votes of the Committee on Health

Bill/Resolution No.: HR 238	Committee Referral: HLT, JUD	Date: 3-28-08		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
HLT Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. GREEN, Josh, M.D. (C)	✓			
2. MIZUNO, John (VC)	✓			
3. AWANA, Karen Leinani	✓			
4. BELATTI, Della Au				✓
5. BERTRAM, Joe, III	✓			
6. CABANILLA, Rida T.R.				✓
7. RHOADS, Karl	✓			
8. SHIMABUKURO, Maile S. L.	✓			
9. TOKIOKA, James Kunane				✓
10. WARD, Gene, Ph.D.				✓
TOTAL (10)	6			4
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: <i>John M. Mizuno</i>				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office				