STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3382

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 0 4 2008

RE: H.B. No. 523
        H.D. 2
        S.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2008
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Judiciary and Labor, to which was referred H.B. No. 523, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CHILDREN,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

(1)   Establish guiding principles by which the Department of Human Services shall abide with respect to foster children; and

(2)   Authorize the family court to issue necessary orders, sua sponte or on motion of a guardian ad litem, to ensure adherence to these guiding principles.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services and Legal Aid Society of Hawaii. Comments were received from the Judiciary.

Your Committee finds that this measure would give youth a voice and the ability to participate in significant decisions impacting their own lives in court hearings, meetings with their case workers, and transitional planning conferences. Your Committee further finds that this measure would promote the stability of foster placements, assist foster children in understanding the protections available to them when they enter

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foster custody, and help to improve the overall quality of life for foster children.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary and Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 523, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, Chair

The Senate
Twenty-Fourth Legislature
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
JDL

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
HB 523 HD2 SD1	HSP, JDL	4-1-08

☐ The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.

If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

☑ Pass, unamended 2312	☐ Pass, with amendments 2311	☐ Hold 2310	☐ Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
TANIGUCHI, BRIAN T. (C)	✓			
HEE, Clayton (VC)				✓
GABBARD, Mike	✓			
KOKUBUN, Russell S.	✓			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	✓			
SLOM, Sam	✓			
TOTAL	5	—	—	1

Recommendation:

☑ Adopted   ☐ Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature: _____

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*Only one measure per Record of Votes