

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

376

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 15 2007

RE: S.B. No. 1164
S.D. 1

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

Madam:

Your Committee on Human Services and Public Housing, to which was referred S.B. No. 1164 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CHILDREN,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish guiding principles for foster children.

The Hawaii Foster Youth Coalition, the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii, Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii, and twenty-one individuals, many of which are former foster youth, submitted testimony in support of this measure. The Department of Human Services submitted testimony in support of the intent of this measure.

Your Committee finds that establishing guiding principles for foster children is an appropriate step towards ensuring that foster children receive fair and equal treatment while in care. The measure also establishes a level of accountability to the foster children by the individuals and agencies that are responsible for their care.

It is the Committee's intent to ensure that foster children are treated with dignity while in foster care. Your Committee has amended this measure by:



- (1) Requiring the Department of Human Services to provide a child with a copy of the guiding principles when the child is placed in foster care;
- (2) Permitting the Family Court to issue any necessary orders, as it deems appropriate or on motion of the guardian ad litem, to the Department of Human Services and the Department of Health, in addition to the Department of Education, to ensure that the guiding principles are upheld; and
- (3) 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 Human Services and Public Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1164, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1164, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Labor.

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


SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Fourth Legislature
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Human Services and Public Housing
HSP

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 1164	Committee Referral: HSP, JDL	Date: 2-8-07		
<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
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne (C)	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les (VC)	✓			
SAKAMOTO, Norman				✓
HEMMINGS, Fred	✓			
TOTAL	3	0	0	1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
Distribution:	Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency	

*Only one measure per Record of Votes