

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

86

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 18 2009

RE: S.B. No. 809
S.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2009
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Human Services, to which was referred S.B. No. 809 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CHILDREN,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to minimize the adverse effects of homelessness on children by establishing a task force to coordinate resources available to homeless children; establishing and making appropriations to the kokua na keiki special fund; and creating an administrative grant program to allow the Department of Human Services to award grants for programs that benefit homeless children.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, the Office of Youth Services, Hawaii Youth Services Network, and Malama O Kamali'i Makamae. The Department of Human Services, the Department of Budget and Finance, and the State Procurement Office submitted testimony in opposition to the measure. Copies of written testimony are available for review on the Legislature's website.

Your Committee finds that homeless children are vulnerable to suffering from negative consequences of homelessness that can adversely impact them for the rest of their life, such as poor health, exposure to violence, poor academic performance, and lack of positive social interactions. A task force that consists of knowledgeable, experienced, and compassionate members can better



coordinate and develop resources and services for the State's homeless children.

In light of the current financial crisis, your Committee has amended this measure to provide for appropriations from available federal funds. Additionally, your Committee has amended this measure to adopt recommendations provided by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, the Office of Youth Services, and the Hawaii Youth Network.

Specifically, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Providing that an appropriation shall be made only if the Department of Human Services determines that federal funds that can be appropriately expended for the purposes of this measure are available;
- (2) Adopting the recommendations of testifiers to add to the membership of the task force the Office of Youth Services, a representative from the leeward Native Hawaiian community, and a representative from an organization that provides shelter, street outreach, or transitional living services to runaway and homeless youth; and
- (3) Adding the topic of supportive mental services for homeless youth to the task force's discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 809, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 809, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.



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

Suzanne Chun Oakland
SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Human Services
HMS

Bill / Resolution No.:* <i>SB 809</i>	Committee Referral: <i>HMS, WAM</i>	Date: <i>2/12/09</i>		
<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)	✓			
GREEN, M.D., Josh	✓			
HEMMINGS, Fred			✓	
TOTAL	<i>3</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>[Signature]</i>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes