

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 20 2009

RE: S.B. No. 910

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

Madam:

Your Committees on Human Services and Education and Housing,
to which was referred S.B. No. 910 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE TRANSFER OF HOMELESS
PROGRAMS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to transfer the State's
homeless programs branch of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority to
the Benefit, Employment, and Support Services Division within the
Department of Human Services. This transfer is intended to
improve the Department of Human Services' coordination and
delivery of homeless services to Hawaii's homeless population.

Testimony in support of this measure was received from the
Department of Human Services; the Hawaii Public Housing Authority;
Catholic Charities Hawaii; Waianae Community Outreach; and one
individual. The State Procurement Office provided comments on the
measure. Written testimony presented to the Committees may be
reviewed on the Legislature's website.

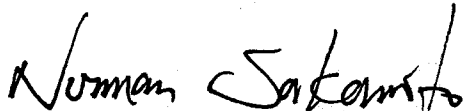
Your Committees find that the State's homeless programs are
currently housed within the Public Housing Authority. The Public
Housing Authority's homeless services branch serve many of the
same clients as the Benefit, Employment, and Support Services
Division, creating overlap, duplication of efforts, and
unnecessary expenditures and costs by both branches. Further,
because services for the homeless population are provided by two
different branches within the Department of Human Services, there
are gaps in the provision of services and a failure to streamline



and coordinate activities. Many individuals are unsure of all the benefits and programs for which they may be eligible because of this lack of coordination. Transferring the homeless services branch from the State's Public Housing Authority to the Benefit, Employment, and Support Services division of the Department of Human Services will improve client outcomes, provide for efficient allocation of funds, and enhance customer service.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Human Services and Education and Housing that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 910 and recommend that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Human Services
and Education and Housing,



NORMAN SAKAMOTO, Chair



SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Fifth Legislature
 State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Education and Housing
EDH

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 910	Committee Referral: HMS/EDH, WAM	Date: 2-13-09
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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
SAKAMOTO, Norman (C)	✓			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)	✓			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	✓			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood	✓			
TSUTSUI, Shan S.				✓
HEMMINGS, Fred				✓
TOTAL	4			2

Recommendation:
 Adopted
 Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature: *Michelle N. Kidani*

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