

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 512

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 20, 2009

RE: H.B. No. 1354

H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2009
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Human Services, to which was referred H.B. No. 1354 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CHILDREN,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to ensure that all children have the opportunity to grow into successful, well-adjusted adults by appropriating general funds and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families funds for the Healthy Start and Enhanced Healthy Start programs to address budgetary shortfalls and implement recommended improvements.

The Hawaii Association for the Education of Young Children and many concerned individuals testified in support of this bill. The Department of Human Services (DHS) testified in opposition to this measure.

The national Healthy Families America program model drew extensively from the research, knowledge, and experience of Hawaii's Healthy Start program which began as a demonstration child abuse prevention project in 1985 and was expanded into a statewide program in the fall of 2001. Currently, the Healthy Start program offers focused support services within a family's natural environment designed to reduce the likelihood of child maltreatment. These services include providing linkages with community resources, early childhood education, family literacy programs, employment assistance, and providing parents with child

HB1354 HD1 HSCR HUS HMS 2009-2287



development information, positive parenting skills, and problem-solving techniques.

Your Committee notes that while several of the front-end services provided by the Healthy Start program are akin to programs under DHS jurisdiction, Healthy Start itself is administratively under the Department of Health and therefore should be included in the allocation of funds.

Upon further consideration, your Committee has amended this bill by:

- (1) Adding additional provisions and appropriations to ensure the Healthy Start and Enhanced Healthy Start programs can continue to provide necessary services to Hawaii's families; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

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 H.B. No. 1354, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1354, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

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


JOHN M. MIZUNO Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-fifth Legislature

HSCR 512

Record of Votes of the Committee on Human Services

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1354	Committee Referral: HUS, FIN	Date: 02/05/09		
<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)				
HUS Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. MIZUNO, John M. (C)	/			
2. BROWER, Tom (VC)	/			
3. BELATTI, Della Au				/
4. BERTRAM, Joe, III	/			
5. CARROLL, Mele				/
6. NISHIMOTO, Scott Y.	/			
7. SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.	/			
8. YAMANE, Ryan I.	/			
9. WARD, Gene				/
TOTAL (9)	6	0	0	3
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: <u>Tom Brown</u>				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				