

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 9, 2010

RE: H.B. No. 2468  
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2010  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Human Services, to which was referred H.B. No. 2468 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to improve the provision of vocational rehabilitation services offered to people who are blind, deaf, hard-of-hearing, or deaf-blind by:

- (1) Establishing a Vocational Rehabilitation Division (VRD) within the Department of Human Services (DHS);
- (2) Placing services for blind and deaf persons under the VRD; and
- (3) Requiring DHS to develop a strategic plan to restructure services to the deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind through a comprehensive service center.

The Disability and Communication Access Board supported this bill with amendments. DHS opposed this measure.

Your Committee has amended this bill by:

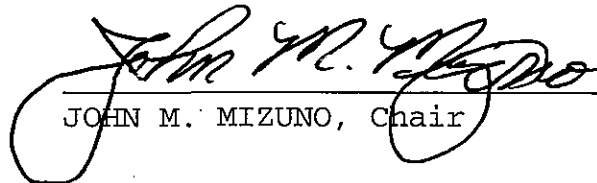
- (1) Deleting provisions requiring DHS to develop a strategic plan to provide services to the deaf, hard-of-hearing, or deaf-blind through a comprehensive service center;



- (2) Clarifying that the VRD will supervise and administer vocational-rehabilitation services, including services for persons who are blind or deaf that are not included under Chapter 348, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to vocational rehabilitation;
- (3) Requiring that DHS prepare a report to be submitted to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2011 that presents the current results of the planning committee working under the DHS's Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Advisory Board to develop plans for a comprehensive deaf center;
- (4) Changing the effective date to January 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive changes 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. 2468, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2468, 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

Record of Votes of the Committee on Human Services

Bill/Resolution No.: <b>HB 2468</b>	Committee Referral: <b>HUS, FIN</b>	Date: <b>2/01/10</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
<b>The recommendation is to:</b> <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	/			
<b>TOTAL (9)</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>The recommendation is:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <div style="text-align:center; margin-left: 100px;">committee acronym(s)</div>				
<b>Vice Chair's or designee's signature:</b> <u>Tom Brower</u>				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original (White) – Committee    Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office    Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				