

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 18 2009

RE: S.B. No. 197

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. 197 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to provide a refundable income tax credit to caregivers of qualified care recipients including persons with disabilities and persons sixty years of age and older.

The tax credit would be provided on a sliding scale ranging from ten to one hundred per cent of an unspecified maximum monetary amount, depending on the taxpayer's adjusted gross income.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by the Kokua Council, ILWU Local 142, and one individual. The Department of Taxation submitted testimony in opposition to the measure. The Tax Foundation of Hawaii submitted comments. Copies of written testimony are available for review on the Legislature's website.

Your Committee finds that caregivers provide necessary services to family members and friends in need. In so doing, caregivers not only benefit their care recipients by allowing them to avoid or delay institutionalization, but also decrease the burden on Hawaii's chronically scarce long-term care beds, nursing care facilities, and residential care homes.



Your Committee further finds that the benefits derived by care recipients and the State come at a price to caregivers, who frequently make financial sacrifices in order to provide such care, working fewer hours and losing benefits in their attempt to balance their caregiving and employment responsibilities. Your Committee finds that providing a refundable tax credit for caregivers providing care to qualified care recipients will ease the financial burdens caregivers bear and recognize the statewide benefits provided by caregivers.

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. 197 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

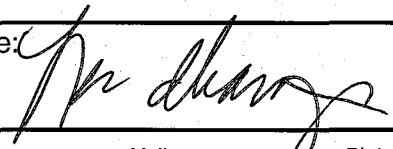
Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Human Services,

  
SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, Chair



The Senate  
Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
State of Hawaii

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Human Services**  
**HMS**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB197	HMS, WAM	2/12/09		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input 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	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	4	0	0	0
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	Goldenrod Committee File Copy	

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes