

Honolulu, Hawaii
March 17, 2010

RE: S.C.R. No. 79
S.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
S.C.R. No. 79, S.D. 1, entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE PROVISION OF
ORIENTATION AND ADDITIONAL TRAINING TO INCREASE THE ABILITY
OF STATE AGENCY CASE WORKERS TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES FACED BY
GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this concurrent resolution is to urge the
provision of orientation and additional training to increase the
ability of state agency case workers to address the issues faced
by grandparents raising grandchildren.

The Hawaii Family Forum, the Hawaii Catholic Conference, and
a concerned individual submitted testimony in support of this
measure.


Based on the results found by the Grandparents Raising
Grandchildren Task Force, your Committee finds that frustration
between DHS case workers and grandparents exist to some extent.
The report showed a number of areas where there has been concern:
little or no understanding of the role of DHS case workers by the
grandparents, grandparents feeling intimidated and afraid of
losing their grandchildren, no respect shown by DHS case workers
for the grandparent/grandchild relationship, and no emotional
support provided by DHS case workers.



Therefore, your Committee believes that additional training and orientation to increase the ability of State agency case workers to address the issues faced by grandparents who raise grandchildren is a critical plan to alleviate the frustration found on behalf of both the grandparents and the DHS case workers.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 79, S.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to the Committee on Finance.

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


JOHN M. MIZUNO, Chair



