

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 247

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 14, 2011

RE: H.B. No. 721
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2011
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Human Services, to which was referred H.B. No. 721 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FOSTER YOUTH,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to promote the well-being of foster youth by:

- (1) Establishing the Hawaii Foster Youth Mentorship Program within the Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide youths from ages seven to 18 years old stable and consistent interactions with adult role models; and
- (2) Appropriating unspecified funds for DHS to establish and administer the program.

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) and Family Program Hawaii commented on this bill. DHS opposed this measure.

Your Committee amended this bill by:

- (1) Authorizing DHS to contract with OHA or appropriate private or nonprofit organizations to provide services for the Hawaii Foster Youth Mentorship Program;


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- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2050, to promote further discussion; and
- (3) 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. 721, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 721, 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



