

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1578-12

Honolulu, Hawaii

April 5, 2012

RE: S.B. No. 2579
S.D. 2
H.D. 3

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2012
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Finance, to which was referred S.B. No. 2579, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MINORS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish a new chapter in the Hawaii Revised Statutes for the safe harbor of sexually exploited children. In addition, this measure:

- (1) Expands the scope of the domestic violence and sexual assault special fund annual report to the legislature; and
- (2) Establishes that persons who are under eighteen and suspected of or charged with certain offenses relating to prostitution shall not be prosecuted.

Polaris Project, Equality Now, and several individuals supported this measure. The Department of Human Services, the Honolulu Police Department, and Harm Reduction Hawaii opposed this measure. The Department of Health, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu, IMUAlliance, and The Pacific Alliance to Stop Slavery commented on this measure.

SB2579 HD3 HSCR FIN HMS 2012-3296-1

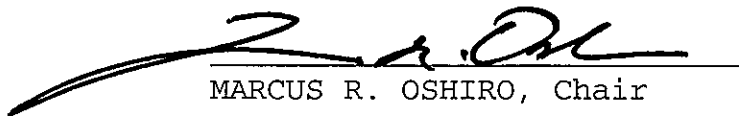


Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Authorizing rather than requiring the Department of Human Services to establish the victim services program, and permitting the Department to take further action to implement the program;
- (2) Changing the date of submittal of the annual reports to the Legislature to September 1 of each year;
- (3) Authorizing, rather than requiring the Department of Human Services to develop a protocol for the interplay between exemption provisions for sexually exploited children established by this measure and other existing child protection statutes;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2030, for the purpose of facilitating further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2579, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2579, S.D. 2, H.D. 3.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Finance,


MARCUS R. OSHIRO, Chair



