

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



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March 12, 2012

TO: The Honorable John M. Mizuno, Chair
House Committee on Human Services

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT: **S.B. 2590, S.D. 2 - RELATING TO CHILD PROTECTION**

Hearing: Monday, March 12, 2012, 8:30 a.m.
Conference Room 329, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of the proposed bill is to give preference to allowing a child who has been or is at risk of being abused to remain in a safe family home, in court proceedings to determine appropriate placement of the child, and requiring the perpetrator of the abuse to leave the home, in certain cases of reported or suspected child abuse or neglect.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) strongly supports the intent of this proposal as it may help to ensure continuity and consistency for a child who might otherwise need out-of-home placement. This bill offers an alternative to a child's placement in out-of-home care that may be viable in some cases.

The DHS defers to the Family Court regarding the feasibility and technical considerations of this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony.