

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



PATRICIA MCMANAMAN
DIRECTOR

BARBARA A. YAMASHITA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

March 29, 2012

TO: Honorable Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT: **S.B. 2818, H.D. 1 - RELATING TO DISPOSITION OF DEAD HUMAN BODIES**

Hearing: Thursday, March 29, 2012; 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 308, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of this bill is to repeal the authority of the Department of Health to deliver or distribute an unclaimed dead human body to a university, hospital, or institution for medical educational and research purposes, and clarifies the responsibilities of the person who has possession, charge, or control of an unclaimed dead human body with respect to gathering and providing information to state agencies.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) strongly supports this Administration bill.

In concert with S.B.2818, the DHS also recommends that the Legislature also consider passing S.B. 2796 which is Administration bill amending section 346-15, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The Department of Health and the Department of Human Services worked together on S.B. 2818 and S.B. 2796 to make the responsibilities for the disposition of dead human bodies consistent and clear between the DOH and DHS. The

changes proposed in S.B. 2818 and S.B. 2796 will result in improvements in efficiency, record keeping, and customer services.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.