

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

3370

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 04 2014

RE: H.B. No. 1539
H.D. 1
S.D. 2

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
Regular Session of 2014
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 1539, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY'S ADMINISTRATION OF THE HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to prevent applicants from circumventing the waiting list of the housing choice voucher program by requiring that housing choice vouchers be surrendered upon the vacancy of the last original household member or when the youngest minor of the household reaches age twenty-one.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority, Community Alliance for Mental Health, and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that some individuals circumvent the housing choice voucher program waiting list by adding new people to a household and allowing them to "inherit" a housing choice voucher. Your Committee believes that this is a misuse of the program that causes needy and deserving families to remain on the waiting list longer than appropriate and forces them to temporarily live in unsafe neighborhoods. Your Committee finds that this measure will close an existing loophole in the law and promote equity in the housing choice voucher program.

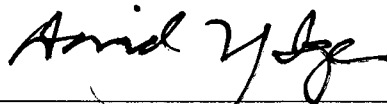


Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Authorizing a household to retain a housing choice voucher until a minor in the household reaches age twenty-three if the minor is a full-time student;
- (2) Specifying how minors may be added to a household without jeopardizing the validity of the household's housing choice voucher status; and
- (3) Deleting the requirement that any legal guardian added to a household to care for the minor children must be eligible for participation in the housing choice voucher program, but retaining the prohibition that the legal guardian may not retain the housing choice voucher following the youngest minor reaching age twenty-one or twenty-three, as applicable.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1539, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1539, H.D. 1, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,



DAVID Y. IGE, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Seventh Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB1539, HD1, SD1	Committee Referral: HMS, WAM	Date: 3-25-14		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
IGE, David Y. (C)	✓			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)	✓			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	✓			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.	✓			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	✓			
ESPERO, Will	✓			
KAHELE, Gilbert	✓			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.	✓			
KOUCHI, Ronald D.	✓			
RUDERMAN, Russell E.	✓			
THIELEN, Laura H.	✓			
TOKUDA, Jill N.	✓			
SLOM, Sam	✓			
	13	0	0	0
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>Michelle N. Kidani</i>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes