

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

2915

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 19 2014

RE: H.B. No. 1576  
H.D. 1  
S.D. 1

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

Madam:

Your Committee on Human Services, to which was referred H.B. No. 1576, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FOSTER CARE SERVICES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to address the insufficient monthly amount paid to foster care providers by increasing the monthly board rate for foster care services for children.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services, Catholic Charities Hawaii, Family Programs Hawaii, Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice, Hawaii Youth Services Network, and ten individuals.

Your Committee finds that the current monthly board rate for children in foster care is \$529 and that this amount is insufficient to cover the costs of care, food, housing, and other necessities for foster children. Your Committee further finds that the monthly board rate has not been increased since 1990, which has made it difficult for the State to recruit and retain foster families. Increasing the stipend for foster care will help meet the basic needs of foster children, increase the stability of foster children, and improve the matching of foster children with families of similar culture and values.



Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing references to group homes and child caring institutions; and
- (2) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2014.

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. 1576, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1576, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

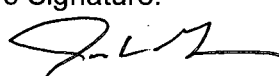
Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Human Services,

  
SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, Chair



The Senate  
 Twenty-Seventh Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Human Services**  
**HMS**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>HB 1576, HDI</b>	Committee Referral: <b>HMS, WAM</b>	Date: <b>3-13-14</b>		
<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				
<b>Members</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Aye (WR)</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Excused</b>
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne (C)				/
GREEN, M.D., Josh (VC)	/			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	/			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.	/			
SLOM, Sam				/
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align:center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">  </div>				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original     Yellow     Pink     Goldenrod File with Committee Report     Clerk's Office     Drafting Agency     Committee File Copy				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes