

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2661

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 28 2014

RE: S.B. No. 2840
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 Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 2840 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to provide flexibility to the Department of Human Services by allowing it to draw from other funds appropriated to the Department to offset budget shortfalls for general assistance benefit payments caused by an increase in the number of general assistance recipients.

The Department of Human Services submitted written comments in support of the measure.

Your Committee finds that under current law, as additional beneficiaries are added to the general assistance program, the monthly payments to each recipient must be reduced or the Department of Human Services must request an emergency appropriation from the Legislature. Your Committee notes that over the past few years, general assistance payments have ranged from \$353 to \$234 per month. Providing the Department of Human Services with the authority to reallocate funds will provide general assistance beneficiaries with a more stable monthly benefit payment without requiring the Department to request an emergency appropriation from the Legislature.



Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion on the measure; and
- (2) Making technical nonsubstantive amendments for purposes of style, clarity, and consistency.

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 S.B. No. 2840, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2840, S.D. 1.

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

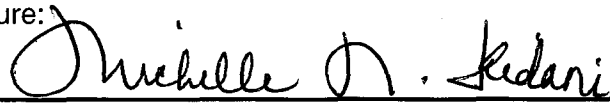


DAVID Y. IGE, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Seventh Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 2840	HMS, WAM	2-13-14		
<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			✓	
	10	0	1	2
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes