

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 04 2013

RE: S.B. No. 59

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
Regular Session of 2013
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Human Services, to which was referred S.B. No. 59 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 increase the monthly board rate distributed by the Department of Human Services for foster care services for children.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services; the Hawaii Youth Services Network; Hale Opio Kauai, Inc.; Family Programs Hawaii; and twenty-six individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Human Services has not raised the monthly board rate for foster care services since 1990. The current monthly board rate in Hawaii of \$529 for all children regardless of age is insufficient, due to increased costs for food, housing, utilities, clothing, and other necessities.

Your Committee has heard testimony of the Department of Human Services expressing concerns about the fiscal impact of increasing the monthly board rate for foster care services for children. The Department of Human Services estimates that if the board rate were to be raised by \$75 per month, an additional \$5,298,300 per year in state general funds would need to be appropriated. Your Committee finds that this issue merits further consideration and



requests that your Committee on Ways and Means further examine this issue.

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 S.B. No. 59 and recommends that it pass Second Reading 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

SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Seventh Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Human Services
HMS

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 59	Committee Referral: HMS, WAM	Date: 1/29/13		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne (C)	✓			
GREEN, Josh (VC)	✓			
KIDANI, Michelle N.				✓
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.				✓
SLOM, Sam	✓			
TOTAL	3	0	0	2
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align:center; font-size: 2em; font-family: cursive;">  </div>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes