

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2155

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 04 2016

RE: S.B. No. 2315
S.D. 2

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2016
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary and Labor, to which was referred S.B. No. 2315, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO JURY DUTY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to exempt from jury duty mothers who breastfeed or express breast milk; provided that this exemption shall end when a mother is no longer breastfeeding or expressing breast milk.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women, Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence, American Association of University Women of Hawaii, Hawaii Women's Coalition, Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition of Hawaii, Hawai'i Women Lawyers, Breastfeeding Hawaii, and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary.

Your Committee finds that breastfeeding has been shown to be beneficial for mothers and their infants. However, for many mothers, breastfeeding can be difficult to begin and hard to maintain. Multiple barriers also exist for women who wish to continue breastfeeding. Your Committee further finds that jury duty can be burdensome to breastfeeding mothers, as mother-child separation creates a serious challenge to continued breastfeeding. Women who serve on a jury may also lack access to a clean, private space to express breast milk. Your Committee additionally finds



that supportive policies can help women continue breastfeeding. The jury duty exemption for breastfeeding mothers, as proposed by this measure, is one such policy that can support and benefit breastfeeding mothers and their children.

Your Committee notes the comments in testimony submitted by the Judiciary that, upon request, breastfeeding mothers may be exempt from jury duty for one calendar year and the Judiciary ensures that private, designated spaces and times are provided for breastfeeding mothers. However, this provision for breastfeeding mothers is not widely known or communicated. Your Committee further notes that the Judiciary is in the process of reviewing information on the Judiciary's website and written information mailed to potential jurors in order to revise information and forms, as appropriate, to clearly communicate information to breastfeeding mothers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by inserting an effective date of January 7, 2059, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary and Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2315, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2315, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary and
Labor,




GILBERT S.C. KEITH-AGARAN, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
JDL

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 2315 SD1	Committee Referral: CPH, JDL	Date: 3/2/16		
<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
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (C)	/			
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L. (VC)	/			
GABBARD, Mike	/			
KAHELE, Kaiali'i	/			
KIM, Donna Mercado				/
THIELEN, Laura H.			/	
SLOM, Sam	/			
TOTAL	5	0	1	1
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