

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1176

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 27, 2015

RE: S.B. No. 643
S.D. 1
H.D. 1

Honorable Joseph M. Souki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2015
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Human Services, to which was referred S.B. No. 643, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CHILD VISITATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to provide guidelines for the court to consider in awarding visitation rights to grandparents by:

- (1) Removing duplicative provisions in awarding grandparents reasonable visitation rights;
- (2) Adding to the requirements for awarding reasonable visitation rights to a grandparent that the court must find that awarding visitation is in the best interest of the child and that denial of reasonable visitation rights would cause significant harm to the child; and
- (3) Clarifying procedures for awarding grandparents visitation rights.

Two individuals supported this measure. The Family Law Section of the Hawaii State Bar Association and Hawaii Family Advocates opposed this measure. An individual commented on this measure.

SB643 HD1 HSCR HUS HMS 2015-2756



Your Committee has amended this measure by adding a provision stating that when a finding of family violence between parents has been determined by the court, the grandparents may not misuse any visitation rights granted to them by transferring their time to any other party and are bound to the same court orders that are maintained by the parents.

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. 643, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 643, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

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



DEE MORIKAWA, Chair



