

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1393

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 25 , 2021

RE: S.B. No. 1144
S.D. 2
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2021
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness, to which was referred S.B. No. 1144, S.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MARRIAGE LICENSE FEES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to increase marriage license fees to:

- (1) Fund modernization of the vital statistics system;
- (2) Support the Hawaii Birth Defects Program; and
- (3) More fairly compensate marriage license agents.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that marriage license fees support the Hawaii Birth Defects Program, pay into the Spouse and Child Abuse Special Fund, and provide compensation for non-civil service marriage license agents. Your Committee further finds that the allocation for the Hawaii Birth Defects Program was set at \$10 in 2002 and the allocation to compensate marriage license agents was set at \$9 in 1998. Neither allocation has been adjusted to meet

2021-2831 SB1144 HD1 HSCR HMSO



rising operating and salary costs and your Committee finds that the money collected from marriage license fees is no longer adequate to support these activities. Increasing marriage license fees and reallocating funds from those fees will ensure the Hawaii Birth Defects Program maintains adequate funding to fulfill its mandated responsibilities and appropriately compensate marriage license agents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing remittance of a portion of the marriage license fees to the Vital Statistics Improvement Special fund;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2060, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1144, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1144, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Health, Human
Services, & Homelessness,



DEAN I. YAMANE, Chair



