

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 23 2023

RE: H.B. No. 1073
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2023
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health and Human Services, to which was referred H.B. No. 1073, H.D. 1, entitled:

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

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend the marriage license fee and compensation for a marriage license agent per license;
- (2) Authorize deposits of marriage license fees into the Vital Statistics Improvement Special Fund; and
- (3) Adjust the distribution of the marriage license fee among various domestic violence prevention special funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health, Domestic Violence Action Center, and one individual.

Your Committee finds that there are approximately twenty thousand marriage licenses issued every year by the Department of Health's Office of Health Status Monitoring at a fee of \$60 per license. The \$60 fee is currently disbursed to the general fund,



Spouse and Child Abuse Special Fund administered by the Department of Human Services, Spouse and Child Abuse Special Account administered by the Judiciary, and Birth Defects Special Fund administered by the Department of Health. Private marriage license agents appointed by the Department of Health also receive \$9 per license issued, as benefit and compensation. Your Committee further finds that despite performing all the work necessary to issue marriage licenses, the Office of Health Status Monitoring does not receive any portion of the collected fees. Furthermore, compensation for the private agents have not been increased for more than twenty-five years. This measure therefore increases the marriage license fee to allow for modernization, quality improvement, and customer satisfaction activities within the Office of Health Status Monitoring.

Your Committee notes that this measure, as currently drafted, does not specify the amended marriage license fee, compensation for the marriage license agent, and distribution amounts to the various funds and accounts. Your Committee further notes that the companion to this measure, S.B. No. 1371, S.D. 1 (2023), which was previously deliberated and recommended for passage by your Committee, specifies all of these amounts. It is therefore necessary to amend this measure to incorporate the amounts set forth in S.B. No. 1371, S.D. 1.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting the amount of \$100 for the marriage license fee to be collected by a marriage license agent per license;
- (2) Inserting the following amounts; provided that the marriage license agent is not a civil service employee:
 - (A) \$15 as the portion of the collected marriage license fee to be retained by the marriage license agent for the agent's benefit and compensation;
 - (B) \$85 as the portion of the collected marriage license fee to be remitted to the Director of Health;



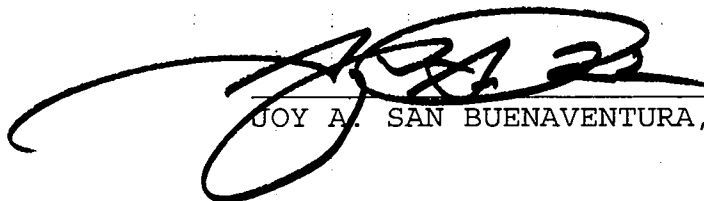
- (C) \$35 as the portion of the remitted fees that the Director of Health shall deposit to the credit of the general fund of the State;
 - (D) \$5 as the portion of the remitted fees that the Director of Health shall deposit to the credit of the Spouse and Child Abuse Special Fund;
 - (E) \$5 as the portion of the remitted fees that the Director of Health shall deposit to the credit of the Spouse and Child Abuse Special Account;
 - (F) \$20 as the portion of the remitted fees that the Director of Health shall deposit to the credit of the Birth Defects Special Fund; and
 - (G) language that requires the Director of Health to deposit \$20 of the remitted fees to the Vital Statistics Improvement Special Fund;
- (3) Inserting the following amounts; provided that the marriage license agent is a civil service employee:
- (A) \$44 as the portion of the remitted fees that the Director of Health shall deposit to the credit of the Spouse and Child Abuse Special Fund;
 - (B) \$5 as the portion of the remitted fees that the Director of Health shall deposit to the credit of the Spouse and Child Abuse Special Fund;
 - (C) \$5 as the portion of the remitted fees that the Director of Health shall deposit to the credit of the Spouse and Child Abuse Special Account;
 - (D) \$20 as the portion of the remitted fees that the Director of Health shall deposit to the credit of the Birth Defects Special Fund; and
 - (E) Language that requires the Director of Health to deposit \$26 of the remitted fees to the Vital Statistics Improvement Special Fund;



- (4) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health and Human Services that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1073, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1073, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committees on Commerce and Consumer Protection and Ways and Means.

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



JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Chair



