

Honolulu, Hawaii

Jan 30, 2008

RE: H.B. No. 2140
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2008
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Human Services & Housing, to which was referred H.B. No. 2140 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to assist undocumented immigrants who are victims of domestic violence or sexual assault by requiring the Department of Human Services (DHS) to establish a two-year pilot project to provide a variety of legal advice and social services to these victims.

Oahu VOICES testified in support of this bill. Na Loio supported the intent of this measure. DHS, Domestic Violence Action Center, and Hawaii Centers for Independent Living provided comments.

Your Committee has amended this bill by:

- (1) Requiring the pilot project to help victims achieve federal Violence Against Women Act status;
- (2) Requiring the pilot project to provide other services, including:



- (A) Legal assistance with family law issues such as divorce, child custody and support, and housing and consumer issues; and
- (B) Programs that assist victims who lack English language skills, case management services such as information and assistance with using public transportation, and obtaining identification;

and

- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2140, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2140, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

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



MAILE SHIMABUKURO, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-fourth Legislature

Record of Votes of the Committee on Human Services & Housing

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 2140	Committee Referral: HSH, JUD, FIN	Date: January 24, 2008
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The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.

The recommendation is to: Pass, unamended (as is) Pass, with amendments (HD) Hold
 Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)

HSH Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. SHIMABUKURO, Maile S. L. (C)	X			
2. RHOADS, Karl (VC)	X			
3. AWANA, Karen Leinani	X			
4. BELATTI, Della Au				X
5. BERTRAM, Joe, III				X
6. CABANILLA, Rida T.R.	X			
7. GREEN, Josh, M.D.	X			
8. MIZUNO, John	X			
9. TOKIOKA, James Kunane	X			
10. WARD, Gene, Ph.D.	X			
TOTAL (10)	8			2

The recommendation is: Adopted Not Adopted
 If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation.
committee acronym(s)

Vice Chair's or designee's signature: *Karl Rhoads*

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