

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

3243

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 28 2010

RE: H.C.R. No. 158

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2010  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committees on Human Services and Health, to which was referred H.C.R. No. 158 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, TO DEVELOP A PROGRAM TO ENCOURAGE BREASTFEEDING AMONG MOTHERS WHO RECEIVE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE FROM MEDICAID,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Human Services (DHS), in consultation with the Department of Health (DOH), to develop a program to encourage breastfeeding among Medicaid recipients.

Your Committees acknowledge that breastfeeding has well-established health benefits, but it has previously not been considered as a cost-savings strategy. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service estimates a minimum savings of \$3,600,000,000 in medical expenses each year if the number of children breastfed for at least six months increased from 43 per cent to 50 per cent. For every 1,000 babies who are not breastfed, there are 2,033 more medical office visits, 212 extra days of hospitalization, and 609 excess prescriptions. By simply breastfeeding, these numbers would be reduced and the expenses associated with them would be lower, as well.

Also, your Committees note that a staggering 41 per cent of births in the country are covered by Medicaid. Encouraging breastfeeding among these infants may lead to a possible increase in state budget savings. Statistics show that in 2006, young



mothers under age twenty breastfed at a rate of 24 per cent while over 50 per cent of mothers over the age of thirty breastfed their children. In this fiscally challenging environment, it would be wise to seek additional ways to reduce health care costs.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Human Services and Health that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 158, and recommend its adoption.

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

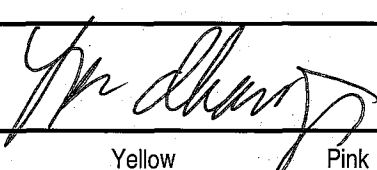
  
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DAVID Y. IGE, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, Chair



The Senate  
Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
State of Hawaii

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Human Services**  
**HMS**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>HCR 158</b>	Committee Referral: <b>HMS / HTH</b>	Date: <b>4-19-10</b>		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne (C)	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les (VC)	✓			
GREEN, M.D., Josh	✓			
HEMMINGS, Fred				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original     Yellow     Pink     Goldenrod File with Committee Report     Clerk's Office     Drafting Agency     Committee File Copy				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate  
 Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
 State of Hawaii

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Health**  
**HTH**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <i>HLR 153</i>	Committee Referral: <i>HMS / HTH</i>	Date: <i>4-19-10</i>		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
IGE, David Y. (C)	✓			
GREEN, M.D., Josh (VC)	✓			
BAKER, Rosalyn H.				✓
ESPERO, Will	✓			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	✓			
HEMMINGS, Fred				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>				
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align:center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;"> <i>Josh Green MD</i> </div>				
Distribution:             Original     Yellow     Pink     Goldenrod File with Committee Report     Clerk's Office     Drafting Agency     Committee File Copy				

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