

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 15 2011

RE: S.B. No. 921  
S.D. 1

Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2011  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Human Services, to which was referred S.B. No. 921 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MINORS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to allow a provider of medical services to provide emergency shelter and related services to a minor, under certain circumstances, to protect the health and safety of the minor.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Youth Services; Hawaii Youth Services Network; Hale Kipa, Inc.; Hawaii Foster Youth Coalition; American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i; and Planned Parenthood of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that some youth lack regular nighttime residence and related services. Some youth choose to leave their homes for a variety of reasons, while others may be denied housing by their parent, legal guardian, or custodian. These youth may not be abused, neglected, or subject to imminent harm, and therefore are not eligible for services offered by the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee further finds that the number of youth who cannot obtain parental or guardian consent for shelter admission is small, but the consequences when youth are forced to remain on the street are severe. These youth are at high risk for physical



or sexual assault, poor nutrition, inadequate health care, and inability to attend school.

Your Committee also finds that admitting a youth to a shelter assures the youth a safe place to stay and also allows the shelter staff to begin the process of addressing the family issues that led to the youth leaving home. Family counseling can be initiated to facilitate the youth's safe return home, or if that is not in the best interest of the youth, alternative housing can be arranged.

Additionally, your Committee finds that it is in the best interest of a youth to be provided with adequate emergency shelter and related services in lieu of returning to the streets.

Your Committee has amended this measure by requiring the provider to make a good faith effort to contact the minor's parent, legal guardian, or custodian to obtain consent for emergency shelter and related services.

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. 921, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 921, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Labor.

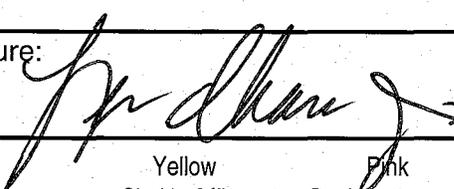
Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Human Services,

  
SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, Chair



The Senate  
 Twenty-Sixth Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

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

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>Sb 921</b>	Committee Referral: <b>HMS, JOL</b>	Date: <b>2-8-11</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 type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" 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	✓			
SLOM, Sam	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0 pro</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