

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

905

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 01 2019

RE: S.R. No. 4

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2019
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Human Services and Judiciary, to which was referred S.R. No. 4 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION URGING THE HAWAII STATE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO CONDUCT A STATEWIDE INVESTIGATION OF SEXUAL ABUSE OF MINORS IN THE STATE OF HAWAII BY CLERGY OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to urge the Hawaii State Department of the Attorney General to conduct a statewide investigation of sexual abuse of minors in the State of Hawaii by clergy of the Roman Catholic Church.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from The Sex Abuse Treatment Center, Hawaii Women's Coalition, O'ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and two individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Roman Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii Diocese of Honolulu.

Your Committees find that court cases and reports across the United States, including in Hawaii, indicate that the Roman Catholic Church engaged in a decades-long pattern of moving clergy who sexually abused children within and between jurisdictions and of hiding, withholding, or otherwise failing to disclose documentation and other evidence of child sexual abuse. A recent Pennsylvania grand jury report detailed the abuse of more than one



thousand children by approximately three hundred priests over decades. Sixteen Attorneys General across the United States are investigating sexual abuse by Roman Catholic clergy based on the findings of the Pennsylvania grand jury report. A 2018 report by Jeff Anderson and Associates PA and the Law Office of Mark Gallagher identified at least fifty-eight Catholic clergy members who allegedly committed child sexual abuse in Hawaii.

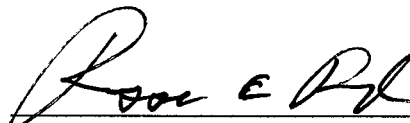
Your Committees further find that child sexual abuse has severe and devastating physical, emotional, social, and financial consequences for victims, their families, and their communities, which can last throughout a victim's lifetime. As such, your Committees find that the Department of the Attorney General should conduct a statewide investigation of sexual abuse of minors in the State by clergy of the Roman Catholic Church to flush out the offenders and protect Hawaii's children.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Human Services and Judiciary that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 4 and recommend that it be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

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



KARL RHOADS, Chair



RUSSELL E. RUDERMAN, Chair



The Senate
Thirtieth Legislature
State of Hawai'i


Record of Votes
Committee on Human Services
HMS

Bill / Resolution No.:* SR 4	Committee Referral: HMS/JDC, WAM	Date: 2/20/2019		
<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
RUDERMAN, Russell E. (C)	✓			
RHOADS, Karl (VC)	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les	✓			
RIVIERE, Gil	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
TOTAL	5	0	0	0
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>Karl Rhoads</i>				
Distribution: 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
Thirtieth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary
JDC

Bill / Resolution No.:* SR 4	Committee Referral: HMS/JDC, WAM	Date: 2-20-2019		
<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
RHOADS, Karl (C)	/			
WAKAI, Glenn (VC)				/
GABBARD, Mike				/
KIM, Donna Mercado	/			
FEVELLA, Kurt	/			
TOTAL	3			2
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

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