

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

734

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 04

, 2021

RE: H.B. No. 975

H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2021
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 975, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO REPORTS OF CHILD ABUSE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to add immunity from civil and criminal liability for individuals who provide information or assistance in child abuse investigations.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services and Hawai'i Psychological Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the federal Child Abuse and Prevention Act (CAPTA) provides federal funding and guidance to states in support of prevention, assessment, investigation, prosecution, and treatment activities for child abuse and neglect. As amended by the federal Victims of Child Abuse Act Reauthorization Act of 2018 (2018 Reauthorization Act), CAPTA provides immunity from civil and criminal liability for individuals who provide information or assistance in child abuse investigations.

2021-2029 HB975 HD1 HSCR HMSO



Your Committee further finds that CAPTA, as amended by the 2018 Reauthorization Act, requires the states to be in compliance with the immunity amendments as a condition for receipt of federal funds. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families has set a deadline of June 30, 2021, for Hawaii to be compliant with this requirement. Your Committee finds that this measure will bring the State into compliance with CAPTA and that this measure must be enacted before June 30, 2021, to ensure the receipt of future federal funds.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 975, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary &
Hawaiian Affairs,

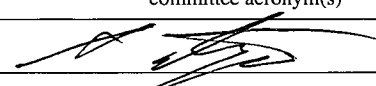


MARK M. NAKASHIMA, Chair



HSCR 734

Record of Votes of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Bill/Resolution No.: <i>HB 975 HD1</i>	Committee Referral: <i>HHH, JHA</i>	Date: <i>2-23-21</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
JHA Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. NAKASHIMA, Mark M. (C)	✓			
2. MATAYOSHI, Scot Z. (VC)	✓			
3. ICHIYAMA, Linda	✓			
4. KOBAYASHI, Dale T.	✓			
5. LoPRESTI, Matthew S.	✓			
6. LOWEN, Nicole E.	✓			
7. McKELVEY, Angus L.K.	✓			
8. NAKAMURA, Nadine K.	✓			
9. TAKUMI, Roy M.	✓			
10. TODD, Chris	✓			
11. TOKIOKA, James Kunane	✓			
12. WARD, Gene	✓			
TOTAL (12)	<i>12</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____ 				
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