

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **655**

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 17 2023

RE: S.B. No. 295
S.D. 2

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2023
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 295, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE CHILD WELFARE SERVICES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish and appropriate moneys for a Malama Ohana Working Group within the Governor's Office of Wellness and Resilience to recommended changes to the State's child welfare system.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Office of Wellness and Resilience; Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii; Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Hawaii Youth Services Network; Hawaii Children's Action Network Speaks!; Converge Consulting, Training, and Research; EPIC Ohana, Inc.-HI HOPES Initiative; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received written comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that the working group established by this measure will bring together invested partners, community members, and persons with lived experience to help address shortcomings in the State's existing child welfare system.



Your Committee notes that the Department of Human Services requested in its written comments that the working group be exempt from part I of Chapter 92, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the executive director of EPIC Ohana, Inc., or the executive director's designee and the chief executive officer of Hale Kipa, Inc., or the chief executive officer's designee, shall be invited to participate in the working group and serve as co-chairs of the working group; and
- (2) Making technical nonsubstantive amendments for purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 295, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 295, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,

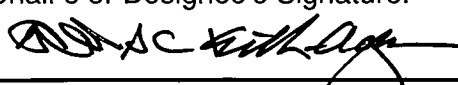


DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Second Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 295, SD1	Committee Referral: HHS, WAM	Date: 2/15/23		
<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
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (VC)	X			
AQUINO, Henry J.C.	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	X			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X			
KIM, Donna Mercado	X			
LEE, Chris				X
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.				X
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.	X			
WAKAI, Glenn	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
TOTAL	11			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				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes