

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 30 2023

RE: S.C.R. No. 51

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Health and Human Services, to which was referred S.C.R. No. 51 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO IMMEDIATELY CEASE INTERCEPTING SOCIAL SECURITY PAYMENTS FOR CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the Department of Human Services to:

- (1) Immediately cease intercepting Social Security payments for children in foster care; and
- (2) Deposit Social Security payments for foster children into savings accounts, which the children may access when they return to their families, are adopted, or age out of foster care.

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

Your Committee finds that roughly ten percent of foster children in the United States are entitled to Social Security benefits due to the death of their parents or a physical or mental disability. Your Committee further finds that the recent decision by New York City child welfare officials to deposit foster children's Social Security payments into savings accounts, which



the children may access when they return to their families, are adopted, or age out of foster care, may help these children achieve financial independence after they age out of foster care. Therefore, this measure supports the financial well-being of foster children by requesting the Department of Human Services to follow the example set by New York City and deposit foster children's Social Security payments into savings accounts rather than intercepting these payments.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health and Human Services that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 51 and recommends its adoption.

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




JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-Second Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Health and Human Services**  
**HHS**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <i>SCR 51</i>	Committee Referral: <i>HHS</i>	Date: <i>3/17/23</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
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A. (C)	/			
AQUINO, Henry J.C. (VC)	/			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.	/			
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.	/			
AWA, Brenton	/			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<i>5</i>			
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