

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1615

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 27 , 2025

RE: H.R. No. 134
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committees on Economic Development & Technology and
Culture & Arts, to which was referred H.R. No. 134 entitled:

"HOUSE RESOLUTION URGING THE HAWAII SISTER-STATE COMMITTEE TO
EVALUATE AND DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE INITIATION OF A
SISTER-STATE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HAWAII AND NEW ZEALAND TO
FOSTER STRONGER TIES IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ARTS AND
CULTURAL EXCHANGE, EDUCATION, AND ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Hawaii Sister-
State Committee to evaluate and develop recommendations for the
initiation of a sister-state relationship between Hawaii and New
Zealand to foster stronger ties in economic development, arts and
cultural exchange, education, and environmental sustainability.

Your Committees received comments on this measure from the
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committees find that establishing a formal relationship
between Hawaii and New Zealand could help foster ties in economic
development, culture, education, and environmental sustainability.
However, your Committees recognize that sister-state relationships
are typically initiated with provinces and prefectures, not

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countries, and that initiating a different kind of relationship between Hawaii and New Zealand would be more appropriate.

Accordingly, your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Urging the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to evaluate and develop recommendations for a memorandum of understanding between Hawaii and New Zealand instead of urging the Hawaii Sister-State Committee to evaluate a sister-state relationship;
- (2) Adding the Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism and removing the Chair of the Hawaii Sister-State Committee from the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure; and
- (3) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Economic Development & Technology and Culture & Arts that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 134, as amended herein, and recommend that it be referred to your Committee on Finance, in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 134, H.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Economic
Development & Technology and
Culture & Arts,



JEANNE KAPEHA, Chair



GREGGOR ILAGAN, Chair



