STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1316

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 0 9 2009

RE: H.B. No. 900

H.D. 2 S.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa President of the Senate Twenty-Fifth State Legislature Regular Session of 2009 State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 900, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE BUDGET OF THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS."

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to appropriate funds for the operating and capital improvement budget of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for the fiscal biennium July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2011.

Your Committee received two comments on this measure. The written comments may be reviewed on the Legislature's website.

Your Committee has provided full funding for all of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs's operating-budget initiatives through the appropriation of trust funds. In total, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs's budget is \$38,587,075 in trust fund moneys for the first fiscal year, and \$38,169,075 in trust fund moneys for the second fiscal year of the upcoming biennium.

The budget for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs has remained relatively stable over the past several years. Realizing the sacrifice being made by all departments in light of the current economic situation, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs has submitted testimony in support of a twenty per cent reduction to its operating budget.

HB900 SD1 SSCR LRB 09-3478.doc

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs has over \$300,000,000 in trust funds for its use, and receives annual payments from the State of no less than \$15,100,000. In addition, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs received a sum of \$2,030,000 in the Hokuli'a lawsuit for legal fees (Kelly v. Oceanside). The State has allowed the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to retain the entire settlement and to collect interest on the principal amount awarded. Rather than requiring the State to claim its share of the settlement money, your Committee recommends that the money be retained by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs as a one-time infusion of funds to support the continuation of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs's programs in fiscal year 2010.

There exists for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs a fiscal reserve account for one-time or emergency expenses. Your Committee finds that if the Office of Hawaiian Affairs is temporarily unable to maintain its current level of services with the maximum number of dollars that may be spent from its trust fund, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs could use the account until the return on its trust fund improves.

Your Committee recognizes the importance of the services and advocacy the Office of Hawaiian Affairs provides its beneficiaries, the need to ensure that the Office of Hawaiian Affairs has the resources to continue providing these services, and the need for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to be financially prudent and to use all available financial resources wisely. Accordingly, your Committee finds that the Office of Hawaiian Affairs is able to support its activities and contracts through the use of its trust fund. Your Committee has appropriated trust fund moneys to completely fund the budgeted expenditures of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for the upcoming biennium.

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 H.B. No. 900, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 900, H.D. 2, S.D. 1.

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

DONNA MERCADO KIM, Chair

The Senate Twenty-Fifth Legislature State of Hawaii

Record of Votes Committee on Ways and Means WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB 900 \$52	Committee	Referral:	1 Da	te: PPIL 7	2009
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to:					
The Recommendation is:					
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313					
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KIM, Donna Mercado (C)					
TSUTSUI, Shan S. (VC)		1	EPEN I		
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne					
ENGLISH, J. Kalani		1			
FUKUNAGA, Carol					
GALUTERIA, Brickwood					
HEE, Clayton					
HOOSER, Gary L.					
KIDANI, Michelle N.					
KOKUBUN, Russell S.					11112
TOKUDA, Jill N.			*C-X-2nf-10-52		activity in the contract of the contract of
HEMMINGS, Fred					
TOTAL		11	0	0	1
Recommendation: Adopted 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