

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 557

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 06 2009

RE: S.B. No. 646
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 S.B. No. 646 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require the Governor to explain, in writing, to the Legislature all policy decisions that reduce or limit appropriations previously approved by the Legislature.

Two private individuals submitted testimony in support of this measure. The Office of the Governor and one state department submitted testimony opposed to this measure.

Written testimony presented to the Committee may be reviewed on the Legislature's website.

Your Committee notes that, particularly in these austere financial times, the Governor, on many occasions, has reduced, withheld, or otherwise limited previously approved legislative appropriations. Your Committee feels that it is critical to the integrity of the budgetary process, that the Governor provide an explanation to the Legislature for the reduction, withholding, or otherwise limiting of any previously approved appropriation by the Legislature. Furthermore, your Committee finds that an explanation of the Governor's policy decisions that affect appropriations and programs previously approved by the Legislature



would encourage cooperative problem solving to help our State move forward.

Your Committee has amended this bill to:

- (1) Clarify that an explanation from the Governor is also required when appropriations are withheld or otherwise limited; and
- (2) Make a technical amendment to replace a missing word.

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. 646, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 646, S.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

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.:* <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">SB 646</div>	Committee Referral: <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">WAM</div>	Date: <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">02/23/09</div>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 </div> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313 </div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KIM, Donna Mercado (C)	✓			
TSUTSUI, Shan S. (VC)	✓			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	✓			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani				/
FUKUNAGA, Carol				/
GALUTERIA, Brickwood	✓			
HEE, Clayton				/
HOOSER, Gary L.	✓			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	✓			
KOKUBUN, Russell S.	✓			
TOKUDA, Jill N.	✓			
HEMMINGS, Fred			/	
TOTAL	8		1	3
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted </div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;"> </div>				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Distribution:</div> <div>Original</div> <div>Yellow</div> <div>Pink</div> <div>Goldenrod</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em; margin-top: 2px;"> <div>File with Committee Report</div> <div>Clerk's Office</div> <div>Drafting Agency</div> <div>Committee File Copy</div> </div>				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes