STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1202

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 0 8 2011

RE:

H.B. No. 382

H.D. 2

S.D. 2

Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui President of the Senate Twenty-Sixth State Legislature Regular Session of 2011 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 382, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE AUDITOR,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to facilitate the Auditor's execution of statutory and constitutional duties with regard to audits of the Department of Taxation.

Specifically, this measure:

- (1) Expressly authorizes the Auditor to inspect all accounts, books, records, files, papers, and documents and all financial affairs of the Department of Taxation;
- (2) Requires the Auditor to implement internal policies to protect the confidentiality of private personal information contained in tax returns; and
- (3) Expands the application of existing penalties for unauthorized disclosures of tax information by a state officer or employee to expressly include the Auditor and the Auditor's agent.

Your Committee received comments in support of this measure from Marion M. Higa, State Auditor, Office of the Auditor, State

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of Hawaii; and Frederick D. Pablo, Director, Department of Taxation.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that while this measure grants express authority to the Auditor to effectively evaluate the activities and performance of the Department of Taxation, careful consideration should be given to the confidentiality of private taxpayer information that may be subject to these examinations.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Auditor shall have access to tax returns and the accounts, books, records, files, papers, documents, and financial affairs of the Department of Taxation only to the extent necessary in the administration of the Auditor's duties and within the scope of an audit;
- (2) Making the measure effective upon its approval; and
- (3) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment to reflect existing statutory language.

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. 382, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 382, H.D. 2, S.D. 2.

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

DAVID V. IGE/ Chall

The Senate Twenty-Sixth Legislature State of Hawaiʻi

Record of Votes Committee on Ways and Means WAM

1600 001	Committee Referral: Date:				
HB 382, 1102, 301	JDL	WAM		4-1-	<u> </u>
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
IGE, David Y. (C)					
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)					
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne					
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.					
ENGLISH, J. Kalani				74 - 1	
ESPERO, Will			eren en e		
FUKUNAGA, Carol					
KIM, Donna Mercado					
KAHELE, Gilbert					
KOUCHI, Ronald D.					
RYAN, Pohai	Company Company		and the state of t		Maria de la constanta de la co
TOKUDA, JIII N.					
WAKAI, Glenn			maga Capa		
SLOM, Sam					
TOTAL		11	\mathcal{O}	0	<u>ッ</u>
Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted					
Chair's or Designee's Signature: Muchille Adani					
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy					