STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2011

Honolulu, Hawaii FFR 0 7 2016

RE: S.B. No. 2106

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate Twenty-Eighth State Legislature Regular Session of 2016 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary and Labor, to which was referred S.B. No. 2106 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WITNESSES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the per diem payments for out-of-state witnesses in criminal cases from \$145 to \$200; and
- (2) Increase the per diem payment supplement from \$90 to \$145 for witnesses from any island other than the island on which is the court is located when that witness is required to stay overnight.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, City and County of Honolulu; Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawaii; Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Kauai; and Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Maui.

Your Committee finds that the criminal case witness per diem stipend amounts have not kept pace with Hawaii's cost of living. Given the increases in costs for lodging and food, the existing per diem stipend amounts are insufficient to cover personal expenses and, as a result, may prevent victims of crimes from pursuing charges against criminal offenders. This measure increases the per diem stipend amounts for out-of-state witnesses and witnesses who require an overnight stay on another island in

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the State, in order to support and encourage victims and other witnesses to report criminal offenses and pursue criminal charges.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary and Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2106 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

GILBERT S.C. KEITH-AGARAN, Chair

The Senate Twenty-Eighth Legislature State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes Committee on Judiciary and Labor JDL

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee	Referral:	Dat	e: ,	/
SB 2106	JDL,	WAM		01/29/	16
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.					
If so, then the previous decision was to:					
The Recommendation is:	* · · · ·			-	
Pass, unamended 2312		h amendme 311		old F	Recommit 2313
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (C)					
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L. (VC)		/			
GABBARD, Mike		~	-		
					
KIM, Donna Mercado		/			
THIELEN, Laura H.					
SLOM, Sam		/			
					
					
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	<u> </u>				
TOTAL	/	5			1
Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted					
Chair's or Designee's Signatu	re:	Mala	1		
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy					

*Only one measure per Record of Votes