

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 16 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 Ways and Means, 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 reduce the economic obstacle that discourages or prevents victims and other witnesses in criminal cases from pursuing charges against offenders due to economic considerations.

Specifically, for criminal cases, this measure increases:

- (1) The per diem stipend amount for out-of-state witnesses, from \$145 to \$200; and
- (2) The supplemental per diem stipend amount available for a witness who must travel to another island and stay overnight, from \$90 to \$145.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the City and County of Honolulu Department of the Prosecuting Attorney.


Your Committee finds that an economic barrier has emerged that discourages victims and other witnesses from pursuing charges against offenders because the per diem stipend amount for out-of-state witnesses and witnesses required to travel to a different island and stay overnight has not been adjusted to Hawaii's present cost of living. For example, many out-of-state witnesses



must pay out of pocket for their necessary expenses such as food or lodging when subpoenaed to return to the State in state court proceedings. Your Committee further finds that increasing these per diem stipends will reduce this economic barrier and encourage victims and other witnesses to pursue charges against offenders.

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. 2106 and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

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

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JILL N. TOKUDA, Chair



The Senate  
Twenty-Eighth Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Ways and Means**  
**WAM**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">SB 2106</div>	Committee Referral: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">JDL, WAM</div>	Date: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">7/11/16</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 style="text-align: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313         </div> </div>				
<b>Members</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Aye (WR)</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Excused</b>
TOKUDA, Jill N. (C)	/			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (VC)	/			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	/			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani				/
GALUTERIA, Brickwood				/
HARIMOTO, Breene				/
INOUE, Lorraine R.	/			
RIVIERE, Gil	/			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.	/			
WAKAI, Glenn	/			
SLOM, Sam	/			
<b>TOTAL</b>	8			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-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive; margin-top: 5px;">Donna Del...</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: 0.7em; 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