

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

3704

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 25 2016

RE: S.R. No. 18
S.D. 1

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.R. No. 18, S.D. 1, entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION URGING UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES TO IMMEDIATELY RESUME BIOMETRIC INTAKE AND INTERVIEWS ON THE COUNTIES OF HAWAII, MAUI, AND KAUAI,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to urge the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services to immediately resume biometric intake and interviews on the Counties of Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Hawaii Coalition for Immigrant Rights.

Your Committee received written comments in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii is among the top five states with the highest share of immigrants in their population. Your Committee also finds that the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services terminated quarterly interview services for the neighbor islands in 2007 and quarterly biometric intake for the neighbor islands in 2009. As a result, immigrants residing on the neighbor islands who require these services are forced to travel to Honolulu, at their own expense, in order to obtain or maintain lawful immigration status. Fees related to immigration applications are substantial and, when combined with the cost of

SR18 SD1 SSCR LRB 16-2347.doc



roundtrip air travel to Honolulu, present a significant barrier to those trying to lawfully comply with the immigration process. Your Committee believes that restoring biometric intake and interviews on the neighbor islands would alleviate an inequitable financial burden imposed on immigrants who reside on those islands.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 18, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

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

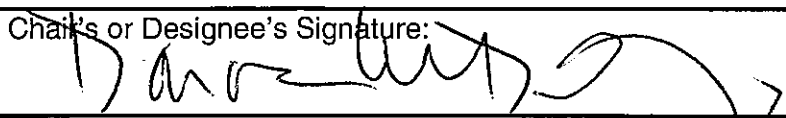


JILL N. TOKUDA, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:* SR 18, SD1	Committee Referral: PSM, WAM	Date: 4/21/16		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
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				/
TOTAL	6			5
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> 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