STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2413

Honolulu, Hawaii FEB 1 6 2018

S.B. No. 2597

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate Twenty-Ninth State Legislature Regular Session of 2018 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Government Operations, to which was referred S.B. No. 2597 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO GIFTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish procedures for the custody, inventory, and care of protocol gifts received by legislators on behalf of the State or either house of the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State Ethics Commission and Common Cause Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that there are no statutory quidelines for the treatment of protocol gifts accepted by legislators on behalf of the State or either house of the Legislature from government officials. Protocol gifts are often given to legislators by government officials from other jurisdictions as a token of goodwill or to strengthen international or national friendships. Failure to accept such a gift may cause embarrassment to the donor and the recipient. However, since these gifts were not accepted on the legislator's own behalf, these gifts are not required to be reported in the legislator's gifts disclosure statement. While many legislators keep an inventory of protocol gifts they receive in accordance with rules adopted by the State Senate or State House of Representatives, your Committee finds that a uniform set of procedures regarding

the custody, inventory, and maintenance of these protocol gifts is necessary to prevent unintended loss, misplacement, or improper maintenance.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Government Operations that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2597 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Government Operations,

James Mercento Kin

DONNA MERCADO KIM, Chair

The Senate Twenty-Ninth Legislature State of Hawaiʻi

Record of Votes Committee on Government Operations GVO

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee		Da	te:	_
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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
KIM, Donna Mercado (C)		\searrow			
RUDERMAN, Russell E. (VC)		X			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood	X				
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.		\times		. :	
RHOADS, Karl		X			
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TOTAL	,	5	0	0	0
Recommendation: Adopted 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