STAND. COM. REP. NO. **2387**

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 1 5 2018

RE: S.B. No. 2823

S.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 2823 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TAX ADMINISTRATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to increase funding for the Department of Taxation's Special Enforcement Section to investigate fraud and noncompliance, especially in relation to the transient accommodations tax.

More specifically, the measure increases the annual deposit ceiling of the tax administration special fund from \$700,000 to \$1,000,000.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Taxation.

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

Your Committee finds that the Special Enforcement Section plays a major role in the Department of Taxation's efforts to encourage compliance with Hawaii's tax laws. Your Committee notes that the Special Enforcement Section is funded solely through the tax revenues that it collects and that are deposited into the tax administration special fund, which is currently capped at \$700,000

per fiscal year. Your Committee believes that an increase in funding would enable the Special Enforcement Section to enhance its tax enforcement functions and encourage voluntary compliance with the tax laws by increasing the department's exposure and visibility.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 2018.

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. 2823, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2823, S.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

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

The Senate Twenty-Ninth Legislature State of Hawaiʻi

Record of Votes Committee on Ways and Means WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee	Referral:	Dat		40
562823	MAM			2/8	118
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
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)		X			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (VC)		X			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani		×			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood		X			
HARIMOTO, Breene		×			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.		×			
KAHELE, Kaiali'i		X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.					X
RIVIERE, Gil					X
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.					X
WAKAI, Glenn		X			_
					·
TOTAL		8			3
Recommendation:				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	<u> </u>
Adopted Not Adopted					
Chair's or Designee's Signature:					
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*Only one measure per Record of Votes