

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 10 2020

RE: S.B. No. 2827

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2020
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Water and Land, to which was referred S.B. No. 2827 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RECORDATION TRANSACTION FEES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Expand the uses of the transaction fee for recordings in the Bureau of Conveyances and Land Court authorized under Act 120, Session Laws of Hawaii 2009;
- (2) Apply the fee to all services rendered by the Bureau of Conveyances pursuant to chapters 501 and 502, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and
- (3) Repeal the transaction fee upon the earlier of the effective date of adoption of rules by the Department of Land and Natural Resources or July 1, 2023.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that Act 120, Session Law of Hawaii 2009, intended to provide the necessary funding to correct serious shortcomings at the Bureau of Conveyances identified by the Joint Legislative Investigative Committee under Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 226 (2007). To date, as a result of Act 120, the



Bureau of Conveyances has significantly improved the automation and integrity of the recording process, established web and digital access to most of the Bureau of Conveyances' database and records, and created the portal and process for the electronic recording of documents. Future key improvement projects include completing phases of the Department of Land and Natural Resources' digitization project, which include securing and increasing accessibility to the Bureau of Conveyances' records and maps as well as establishing a critical disaster recovery plan that can continue the Bureau of Conveyances' operation in times of an emergency. This measure expands the authorized use of the transaction fees charged for recordings with the Bureau of Conveyances to address many of the evolving issues that the Bureau of Conveyances faces, such as enhancing technology and digitization, improving workflow processes for both daily and historical records processing and certification, and restoring and preserving physical book records.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water and Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2827 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 Water and Land,



KAITLAN M. SHELE, Chair



The Senate
Thirtieth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Water and Land
WTL

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
<i>SB 2827</i>	<i>WTL, NAM</i>	<i>2/3/2020</i>		
<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
KAHELE, Kaiali'i (C)	X			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (VC)	X			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	X			
RIVIERE, Gil	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt				X
TOTAL	<i>4</i>			<i>1</i>
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
<i>[Signature]</i>				
Distribution:				
Original	Yellow	Pink	Goldenrod	
File with Committee Report	Clerk's Office	Drafting Agency	Committee File Copy	

*Only one measure per Record of Votes