

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 28 2020

RE: S.B. No. 3141  
S.D. 2

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B.  
No. 3141, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LEGAL SERVICES FOR LOW-INCOME  
IMMIGRANTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Office of Community Services of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to contract with nonprofit organizations to provide low-income immigrants with legal counsel to assist and represent them in immigration proceedings and provide assistance on immigrant status issues.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services; Office of Community Services, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Americans for Democratic Action; Filipina Advocacy Network; Filipinos for Affirmative Action; The Legal Clinic; Pono Hawaii Initiative; and six individuals.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii has a large number of immigrants, but few of them become naturalized citizens. Confronting the immigration system is a complicated and daunting process. Legal counsel is especially important for immigrants whose legal status is brought into question. However, legal counsel is expensive and difficult to obtain. Furthermore, the



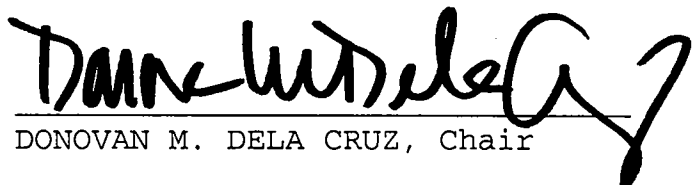
few nonprofit organizations that provide immigration-related services to the poor are generally restricted by the terms of their federal funding from assisting undocumented residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Office of Community Services may retain up to ten percent of the appropriation for its administrative costs in relation to the contracts; and
- (2) Making technical nonsubstantive changes for purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 3141, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 3141, S.D. 2.

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

  
DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair



The Senate  
Thirtieth Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes  
Committee on Ways and Means  
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB 3141, SD1</b>	Committee Referral: <b>LCA, WAM</b>	Date: <b>02/20/20</b>
<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 type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313		
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)
Nay	Excused	
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X	
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (VC)	X	
ENGLISH, J. Kalani		X
HARIMOTO, Breene	X	<del>GA</del>
INOUE, Lorraine R.	X	
KAHELE, Kaiali'i	<del>GA</del>	X
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X	<del>GA</del>
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X	
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.	X	
RIVIERE, Gil	X	
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.	X	
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.	X	
FEVELLA, Kurt	X	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>
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