

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **2115**

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 08, 2022

RE: S.B. No. 2607

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2022
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred
S.B. No. 2607 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO INDEPENDENT LEGAL COUNSEL,"
begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to authorize the
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to retain independent counsel as
needed, whose legal fees are to be paid for by the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and two individuals.
Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure
from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that when the need arises, the
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands should be able to employ or
retain an attorney for the purposes of representing the State in
litigation, rendering legal counsel to the department, or drafting
legal documents. This measure will allow the Department of
Hawaiian Home Lands to do so, and provides that all legal fees
owed to independent counsel are to be paid by the State.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report,
your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B.
No. 2607 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be
referred to your Committees on Judiciary and Ways and Means.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs,



MAILE S.L. SHIMABUKURO, Chair



Record of Votes
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
HWN

*Only one measure per Record of Votes