

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 15 2023

RE: S.B. No. 1198
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2023
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism, to which was referred S.B. No. 1198 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to prohibit holdover board members of the Hawaii Tourism Authority from holding office beyond the commencement of the next legislative session following the expiration of the member's term of office.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Hawai'i Tourism Authority; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Hawaii Tourism Authority is guided by a twelve-member, volunteer, Senate-confirmed Board of Directors. Hawaii Tourism Authority board members go above and beyond the call of duty for these volunteer positions and bring the depth of their professional experiences to the board table. However, recruitment for volunteer service on the Hawaii Tourism Authority's board is often challenging. Your Committee further finds that the Office of the Attorney General opined that the current laws allow a member of the Hawaii Tourism Authority to continue as a holdover after their term has expired until a successor is appointed by the Governor, without limitation. Your Committee finds that this interpretation is contrary to



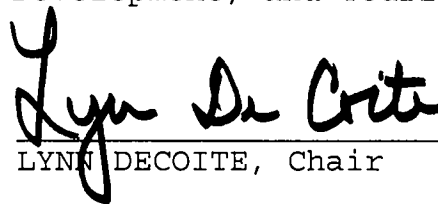
legislative intent and therefore this measure is necessary to clarify the existing law.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Reducing the number of board members on the Hawaii Tourism Authority Board of Directors from twelve to nine; reducing the number of members required to have knowledge, experience, and expertise in the area of accommodations, transportation, retail, entertainment, or attractions from six to four; and reducing the maximum number of members representing, employed by, or under contract to any sector of the industry represented on the board from three to two;
- (2) Reducing the number of board members necessary to constitute a quorum from seven to five; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1198, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1198, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

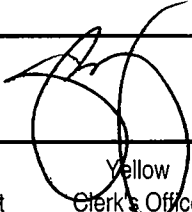
Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Energy, Economic
Development, and Tourism,


LYNN DECOITE, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Second Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
EET

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 1198	Committee Referral: EET, JDC	Date: 2/9/23		
<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
DECOITE, Lynn (C)	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn (VC)	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol	✓			
KIM, Donna Mercado	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
TOTAL	5	0	0	0
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