

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

2134

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 05 2024

RE: S.B. No. 2780

S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2024
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred
S.B. No. 2780 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN
BENEFICIARIES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require the
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to complete an assessment and
report on the feasibility of digitizing its applicant,
beneficiary, and lessee records and create an interactive database
software program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Ho'omana Pono, LLC; and
five individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from one
individual.

Your Committee finds that it is the obligation of the
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to develop and deliver land to
native Hawaiian beneficiaries. However, it is difficult for the
Department to fulfill this mission as its information systems are
outdated and spread across multiple locations. Beneficiaries
seeking to determine their status may spend weeks finding and
gathering that information. This measure will assist the



Department in implementing an interactive digital database, which would improve efficiency within the Department.

Your Committee notes that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is currently in the process of modernizing its system and is seeking an estimated \$6,000,000 for implementation of the interactive digital database.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands shall complete an interactive digitized beneficiary assessment in place of assessing and reporting on the feasibility of creating an interactive digital database;
- (2) Requiring the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to complete implementation of the interactive digitized data within two years of the effective date of this measure;
- (3) Directing the appropriation of unspecified amount of funds for the interactive beneficiary assessment and implementation of the digital database; and
- (4) 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 Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2780, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2780, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

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



MAILE S.L. SHIMABUKURO, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Second Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
HWN

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 2780	Committee Referral: HWN, WAM	Date: 1/30/2024		
<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
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L. (C)	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt (VC)	X			
IHARA, Jr., Les	X			
KEOHOKALOOLE, Jarrett	X			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim"				X
TOTAL	4			1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align: center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">Kurt Fevelle</div>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes