

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **2276**

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 13 2024

RE: S.B. No. 2787
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 Labor and Technology, to which was referred S.B. No. 2787 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO IMMIGRATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish the Immigration Services and Access Unit within the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations' Office of Community Services to support programs for Hawaii's immigrants and refugees.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services, Office of Language Access, Office of Community Services, Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!, Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action, Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights, Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights, FilCom CARES, Hawai'i Workers Center, and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that immigrants comprise two hundred seventy thousand persons, or eighteen percent, of Hawaii's population, including 145,000 persons who are naturalized citizens. Your Committee also finds that immigrants are vital to the fabric of our communities and essential for the continued growth and success of the State's economy. Despite their contributions, immigrants often face numerous obstacles, including language barriers, legal issues related to their immigration status, and challenges with acculturation and integration. This



measure will provide immigrants with the necessary comprehensive support services and resources to address these needs and promote immigrant economic self-sufficiency, community inclusion, and integration.

Your Committee notes that although this measure contains an unspecified appropriation amount and number of positions to be established, the Office of Community Services' testimony requests an appropriation of \$520,000 to establish three full-time equivalent (3.0 FTE) positions for the purposes of this measure. Therefore, your Committee respectfully requests that your Committee on Ways and Means consider inserting these numbers for fiscal year 2024-2025.

Your Committee has amended this measure by 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 Labor and Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2787, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2787, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Labor and
Technology,


HENRY J. C. AQUINO, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Second Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Labor and Technology
LBT

Bill / Resolution No.:* 5B2787	Committee Referral: LBT, WAM	Date: 2/7/24
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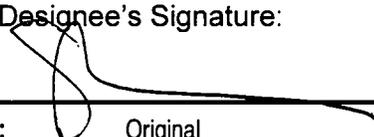
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
 If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312
 Pass, with amendments 2311
 Hold 2310
 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
AQUINO, Henry J.C. (C)	X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y. (VC)	X			
IHARA, Jr., Les	X			
LEE, Chris				X
FEVELLA, Kurt				X
TOTAL	9			2

Recommendation:
 Adopted
 Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:


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***Only one measure per Record of Votes**