

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

331

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 11 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 437  
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2025  
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Economic Development & Technology, to which  
was referred H.B. No. 437 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO OUT-OF-STATE OFFICES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of  
Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to establish an out-  
of-state office in the Philippines.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Oahu Filipino Community Council; Filipino Chamber of  
Commerce of Hawaii; Hawaii Philippines Business & Economic  
Council; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments  
on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic  
Development, and Tourism.

Your Committee finds that enhancing economic ties between  
Hawaii and the Philippines presents significant opportunities for  
strengthening mutual economic development. This measure is  
intended to help foster these economic benefits by requiring the  
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to  
establish an out-of-state office in the Philippines.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing its  
effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

2025-1470 HB437 HD1 HSCR HMSO



Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the following appropriation amounts for the establishment of an out-of-state office in the Philippines:

- (1) \$200,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 for salaries, operating expenses, programmatic expenses, and start-up costs including a study as to where best to locate the office; and
- (2) \$175,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 and thereafter on a recurring basis.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 437, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 437, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Economic  
Development & Technology,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GREGGOR ILAGAN, Chair

HSCR 331

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 437		Committee Referral: ECD, FIN		Date: 2/5/25	
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.					
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)					
ECD Members		Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. ILAGAN, Greggor (C)		/			
2. HUSSEY, Ikaika (VC)		/			
3. HOLT, Daniel		/			
4. TAM, Adrian K.		/			
5. TEMPLO, Shirley Ann		/			
6. TODD, Chris		/			
7. MATSUMOTO, Lauren		/			
TOTAL (7)		7	—	—	—
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee action(s)					
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____					
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO					