

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1195

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 20 2025

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

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Economic Development and Tourism and Transportation and Culture and the Arts, to which was referred H.B. No. 437, H.D. 1, entitled:

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

beg leave to report as follows:

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

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii; and one individual.

Your Committees find that it is a goal of the State to create economic longevity, growth, and stability to facilitate sustainable development benefiting its residents. Your Committees further find that Hawaii and the Republic of the Philippines share a long history of cultural and business ties. Due to the major role Filipinos play in all sectors of the State's economy, expanded cooperation between the State and the Republic of the Philippines will have foreign and domestic benefits. Out-of-state offices are an important component of promoting cultural and



economic partnerships between the State and its foreign partners. By requiring and funding the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism's establishment of an office in the Republic of the Philippines, this measure will further strengthen the trade, cultural exchange, and economic partnerships between the State and the Republic of the Philippines, thereby creating greater opportunities for mutual economic development.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Economic Development and Tourism and Transportation and Culture and the Arts that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 437, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 437, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Economic
Development and Tourism and
Transportation and Culture and
the Arts,



CHRIS LEE, Chair



LYNN DECOITE, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Third Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts
TCA

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB 437 HDI	Committee Referral: EDT/TCA, WAM	Date: 3-13-2025
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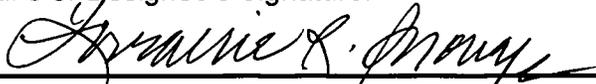
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
 If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

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

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
LEE, Chris (C)	✓			
INOUYE, Lorraine R. (VC)	✓			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	✓			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	✓			
DECORTE, Samantha			✓	
TOTAL	4		1	

Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:


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*Only one measure per Record of Votes