

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 14 2025

RE: S.B. No. 817  
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 S.B. No. 817 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:

- (1) Require the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to establish an out-of-state office in the Philippines; and
- (2) Appropriate funds.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Oahu Filipino Community Council; Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights; and two individuals.

Your Committees find that strengthening the economic ties between the State and the Philippines is a prime opportunity to fuel economic development. As the second-largest ethnic group in the State, Filipinos play a significant role in the local economy. President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr. has also indicated his support for increased trade between the regions. This measure allows the



State to enhance the economic and cultural partnerships with the Philippines and promote growth and mutual benefits.

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 S.B. No. 817, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 817, 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.:* <b>SB 817</b>	Committee Referral: <b>EDT/TCA, WAM</b>	Date: <b>2-13-2025</b>		
<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
LEE, Chris (C)	✓			
INOUYE, Lorraine R. (VC)	✓			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	✓			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	✓			
DECORTE, Samantha			✓	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>		<b>1</b>	
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