

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



Record of Votes
Committee on Economic Development and Tourism
EDT

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

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

*Only one measure per Record of Votes