

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1623

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 02 2025

RE: S.R. No. 177  
S.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts, to which was referred S.R. No. 177 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AND ENCOURAGING A BROADER RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HAWAII AND NEW ZEALAND,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to support and encourage a broader relationship with New Zealand.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Prior to the hearing on this measure, your Committee posted and made available for public review a proposed S.D. 1, which deletes the contents of this measure and inserts language to reaffirm the Legislature's friendship with the people of Canada and recognize and acknowledge Canadian holidays significant to the cultures and communities of Canada.

Your Committee finds that both Canada and Hawaii share long histories fraught with challenges and injustice related to colonization and exploitation of indigenous communities whose land and sovereignty was taken against their will. Your Committee



further finds that while the injustice of the past can never truly be undone, today both Canada and Hawaii share a commitment to advancing the rights, preserving the culture, empowering new generations, and reaching toward justice for indigenous and native peoples. Your Committee concludes that by reaffirming the Legislature's friendship with Canada and recognizing the nation's holidays, the State acknowledges a shared commitment to prohibiting infringement of the sovereign right of a people to self-determination.

Your Committee has amended this measure by adopting the proposed S.D. 1 and further amending the measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the people of Hawaii reaffirm an enduring friendship with the people of Canada;
- (2) Specifying that the State recognizes Indigenous Peoples' Day, Canada Day, and Truth and Reconciliation Day in acknowledgement of Hawaii's annexation by the United States, the United States' posturing to annex Canada against the will of the people of Canada, and the State's commitment to never again allow the sovereign right of a people to self-determination to be taken against their will;
- (3) Clarifying that the people of Hawaii invite the people of Canada, including leaders from political parties, first nations, and indigenous cultures, join with the leaders and people of Hawaii in an annual meeting and forum;
- (4) Amending legislative findings; and
- (5) Updating its title accordingly.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 177, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.R. No. 177, S.D. 1.



Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Transportation and  
Culture and the Arts,



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CHRIS LEE, 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>SR 177</b>	Committee Referral: <b>TCA</b>	Date: <b>4-1-2025</b>
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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	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>			

Recommendation:    
 Adopted    
 Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:  


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\*Only one measure per Record of Votes