

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR - 7 2006

RE: H.B. No. 1889  
H.D. 1  
S.D. 2

Honorable Robert Bunda  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2006  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 1889, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish an Office of International Affairs within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, to coordinate and promote economic, social, cultural, and scientific relations with other countries.

Specifically, the Office of International Affairs would:

- (1) Develop policies that:
  - (A) Promote relations with other countries;
  - (B) Promote transportation between, and tourism with, other countries; and
  - (C) Promote international telecommunications and high technology exchanges;
- (2) Encourage the development of international sister-city programs;



- (3) Develop and promote Hawaii as the economic, trade, commerce, transportation, banking, and tourism hub of the Pacific; and
- (4) Develop an international affairs and peace education curriculum.

Your Committee notes that the Office of International Relations was abolished in 1994 as a cost cutting measure. Subsequently, the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism has assumed the functions of the Office of International Relations. However, a separate Office of International Affairs would enable the State to carry out its international activities more effectively.

In this time of globalization, it is critical for Hawaii to assume a proactive role in international matters. Our State is impacted by international agreements and activities and there is much to learn from other countries. Furthermore, it is often said that this new century will belong to the Pacific and not the Atlantic. That East Asia is recognized as being the most productive economic region in the world is evidence of this theory. In the international arena, Hawaii has to offer not only its prime location and natural beauty, but its people, whose talent, skills, and cultural and value affinities combine the best of the East and the West.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date from upon approval to July 1, 2050, to facilitate further discussion;
- (2) Deleting references to naming the office after anyone in particular; and
- (3) Making technical nonsubstantive amendments for the purpose of clarity, style, and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1889, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1889, H.D. 1, S.D. 2.




Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Ways and Means,

  
BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, Chair



The Senate  
Twenty-Third Legislature  
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes of the  
Committee on Ways and Means  
(Bills and Resolutions)

Measure: HB 1889 HD1 SD1	Committee Referral: EIA, WAM	Date: 04/06/06		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is to: <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	Ayes	Ayes(WR)	Nays	Excused
TANIGUCHI, Brian T. (C)	/			
TSUTSUI, Shan S. (VC)	/			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	/			
ESPERO, Will				/
FUKUNAGA, Carol				/
HOOSER, Gary L.	/			
INOUE, Lorraine R.	/			
KANNO, Brian				/
KIM, Donna Mercado	/			
KOKUBUN, Russell S.	/			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	/			
SAKAMOTO, Norman	/			
HEMMINGS, Fred				/
SLOM, Sam			/	
TRIMBLE, Gordon			/	
TOTAL	9	0	2	4
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original     Yellow     Pink     Goldenrod File with Committee Report     Clerk's Office     Drafting Agency     Committee File Copy				

\*Do not list more than one measure per Record of Votes.