

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb. 17, 2006

RE: S.B. No. 301  
S.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Labor and Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs,  
to which was referred S.B. No. 301, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the  
Hawaii Civil Rights Commission for investigator,  
attorney-mediation coordinator, and legal assistant positions for  
fiscal year 2006-2007.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by the  
Hawaii Civil Rights Commission (HCRC), the Hawaii State AFL-CIO,  
and three individuals.

Your Committees find that the HCRC, pursuant to chapter 368,  
Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), has enforcement jurisdiction over  
complaints of discrimination brought under part I of chapter 378,  
HRS, chapters 489 and 515, HRS, and section 368-1.5, HRS. At its  
inception, the HCRC inherited approximately two hundred and sixty  
open cases from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations  
and over the past several years has averaged approximately four  
hundred and fifty new complaints filed each year. Your Committees  
further find that the HCRC is divided into two separate sections,  
an enforcement section and an adjudication section, and the  
enforcement and adjudication of the complaints filed requires the  
utilization of all available staff time and resources.



Currently, the HCRC has twenty-seven budgeted positions, with nine positions funded either in whole or in part by federal funds. The number of budgeted positions has not increased since the HCRC was established, although its caseload has increased. Efforts to address concerns over the caseload and to improve the timeliness of investigations have been hindered by a lack of needed additional investigators, the termination of student employment, and a lack of staffing support for HCRC attorneys and its voluntary mediation program. Your Committees determine that the HCRC has demonstrated a commitment to improving the efficacy and efficiency of its operations, and the establishment of new positions is necessary in enabling the HCRC to fulfill its role in safeguarding the civil rights of our citizens.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Labor and Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 301, S.D. 1, and recommend that it be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Labor and  
Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs,



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COLLEEN HANABUSA, Chair



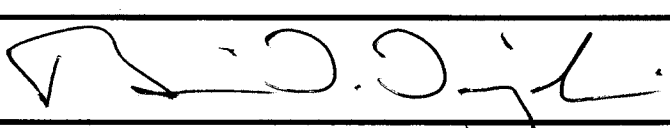
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BRIAN KANNO, Chair



The Senate  
Twenty-Third Legislature  
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes of the  
Committee on Labor  
(Bills and Resolutions)

Measure:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
SB 301 SD1	LBR IAW, NAM	2-13-06
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (2312)	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (2311)	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold (2310)
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommit (2313)		
Members	Ayes	Ayes(WR)
Nays	Excused	
KANNO, Brian (C)	✓	
IHARA, Jr., Les (VC)		✓
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.	✓	
SLOM, Sam	✓	
TOTAL	3	1
Recommendation:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted		
Chair's or Designee's Signature:		
		
Distribution:		
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency
		Goldenrod Committee File Copy

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

