

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

254

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 9, 2007

RE: H.B. No. 1555
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2007
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Water, Land, Ocean Resources & Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 1555 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TAX CREDITS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to provide a tax credit for costs incurred in the development of a world-class aquarium at Kakaako Makai on Oahu, up to a maximum of \$75,000,000 for all qualified taxpayers in all years.

The Department of Taxation, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, and a member of the Ala Moana/Kaka'ako Neighborhood Board opposed this bill. The Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) provided comments.

Your Committee has amended this bill by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for style, clarity, and consistency.



Your Committee notes that HCDA, which is the primary agency responsible for the community development of the Kakaako area, suggests that prior to passing this legislation, the Advisory Working Group formed from community members, stakeholder organizations, and individuals to build consensus on a development plan, should be consulted to determine whether the proposed aquarium fits into the collective vision of the Kakaako area.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water, Land, Ocean Resources & Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1555, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1555, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committees on Tourism & Culture and Economic Development & Business Concerns.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Water, Land, Ocean
Resources & Hawaiian Affairs,



KEN ITO, Chair



