

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

153

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 8, 2007

RE: H.B. No. 379

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 Judiciary, to which was referred H.B. No. 379 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WITNESSES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of the bill is to increase witness' daily fees and the per diem paid to witnesses who travel from out of state or inter-island to attend court proceedings.

The Hawaii Tourism Authority, the Office of the Public Defender, and the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu testified in support of the bill. The Department of Budget and Finance provided comments.

Your Committee finds that increasing witness fees and per diem payments will help to reduce the burden on those obliging witnesses who perform a service that is integral to our criminal justice system. This increase will help defray the cost to witnesses in time, participation, transportation costs, and lost wages.

Your Committee amended the bill by:

- (1) Extending the effective date to January 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and

HB379 HD1 HSCR JUD HMS 2007-1835



- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive changes for style, clarity, and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 379, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 379, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary,



TOMMY WATERS, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-fourth Legislature

Record of Votes of the Committee on Judiciary

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 379	Date: 1/30/07
Committee Referral: JUD	<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.

The recommendation is to:

<input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments
<input type="checkbox"/> Hold	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments, for recommittal for further consideration

JUD Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. WATERS, Tommy (C)	✓			
2. OSHIRO, Blake K. (VC)	✓			
3. CALDWELL, Kirk	✓			
4. EVANS, Cindy	✓			
5. GREEN, Josh, M.D.	✓			
6. ITO, Ken	✓			
7. LUKE, Sylvia	✓			
8. McKELVEY, Angus L.K.	✓			
9. MORITA, Hermina M.	✓			
10. SONSON, Alex M.	✓			
11. SOUKI, Joseph M.	✓			
12. TSUJI, Clift	✓			
13. YAMANE, Ryan I.	✓			
14. YAMASHITA, Kyle T.	✓			
15. MARUMOTO, Barbara C.	✓			
16. PINE, Kymberly Marcos	✓			
17. THIELEN, Cynthia	✓			
TOTAL	17			


The recommendation is:

Adopted

Not Adopted

If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation.
committee acronym(s)

Vice Chair's or designee's signature:



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