

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1461

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 23, 2007

RE: S.B. No. 1823
S.D. 1
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 Tourism & Culture, to which was referred
S.B. No. 1823, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to revise the appointment process
and qualifications of members to the Board of Directors (Board) of
the Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) by, among other things:

- (1) Reducing from 12 to two, the number of public, voting
members appointed by the Governor and requiring one of
the two members to have knowledge, experience, and
expertise in the area of Hawaiian cultural practices;
- (2) Specifying that one public voting member shall be
nominated separately and, with the advice and consent of
the Senate, appointed separately by each mayor of the
City and County of Honolulu, County of Hawaii, County of
Kauai, and Maui, and requiring the members to have
knowledge, experience, and expertise in the area of
visitor industry management, marketing, promotion,
transportation, retail, entertainment, or visitor
attractions;
- (3) Repealing existing procedures that require the Governor
to appoint six public voting members from lists of names

SB1823 HD1 HSCR TAC HMS 2007-3323



submitted by the Speaker of the House of Representatives (Speaker) and the Senate President;

- (4) Establishing that three public voting members be appointed by the Speaker and three public voting members be appointed by the Senate President; provided that:
 - (A) Half of the members shall have knowledge, experience, and expertise in the area of visitor industry management, marketing, promotion, transportation, retail, entertainment, or visitor attractions; and
 - (B) Appointments by the Speaker and Senate President are made by adoption of a concurrent resolution by a majority of members of each house;
- (5) Establishing procedures for filling certain vacancies when the Legislature is not in session; and
- (6) Establishing a transitional schedule for implementation of the appointments under this bill.

Hawaii Hotel & Lodging Association did not support this bill. The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism and Starwood Hotel & Resorts opposed this measure.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the provision that half of the public, voting members appointed by the Senate President and Speaker have knowledge, experience, and expertise in the area of visitor industry management, marketing, promotion, transportation, retail, entertainment, or visitor attractions;
- (2) Requiring that one of the three public, voting members appointed by the Speaker and Senate President shall have knowledge, experience, and expertise in the area of visitor industry management, marketing, promotion, transportation, retail, entertainment, or visitor attractions;
- (3) Changing its effective date to January 1, 2025, to encourage further discussion; and

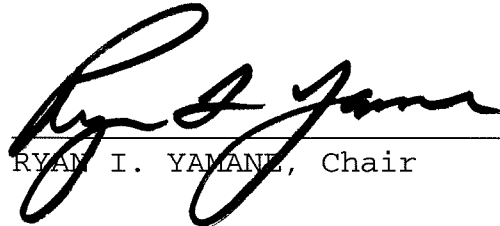


1461

- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for style, clarity, and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Tourism & Culture that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1823, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1823, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Tourism & Culture,



RYAN I. YAMANE, Chair



