

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

3163

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 24 2008

RE: H.B. No. 2391  
H.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2008  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Judiciary and Labor, to which was referred  
H.B. No. 2391, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LEGAL SERVICE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to allow a deputy attorney  
general to provide pro bono legal services if the pro bono legal  
services do not create a conflict of interest with the duties of  
the deputy's office.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii. Testimony in opposition was  
received from the State Attorney General.

This measure conforms current law regarding private practice  
by deputy attorneys general to the requirement of the Hawaii  
Supreme Court in Rule 6.1, which states that providing pro bono  
service is the individual ethical commitment of each member of the  
Hawaii State Bar Association and encourages all members of the bar  
to aspire to perform at least fifty hours of pro bono services  
annually.

Because pro bono legal services may sometimes involve matters  
with the State, which is represented by the State Attorney General  
and which may therefore involve a conflict of interest for the  
deputy, this measure is necessary to allow deputies to fulfill  
their ethical legal obligations to the bar when such work does not  
conflict with their duties with the Attorney General's Office.

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As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary and Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2391, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

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

  
BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, Chair



