

**TESTIMONY OF THE STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL
TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE, 2008**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

S.B. NO. 2267, RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

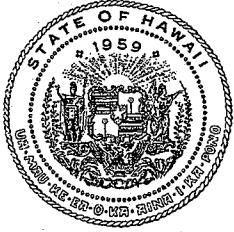
DATE: Wednesday, January 30, 2008 **TIME:** 2:45 PM

LOCATION: State Capitol Room 224
Deliver to: Committee Clerk, Room 205, 1 copy

TESTIFIER(S): WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY
(For more information, contact Margaret S. Ahn, Deputy Attorney General, at 586-1180.)

Chair English and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General takes no position on this measure, but notes that the bill has a constitutional flaw in that the title of the bill is "Relating to the Office of International Relations" but the subject of the bill is a statute relating to the Office of International Affairs.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

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Statement of
THEODORE E. LIU
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
Wednesday, January 30, 2008
2:45 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

in consideration of
SB 2267
RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.

Chair English, Vice Chair Gabbard and Members of the Senate Committee on
Transportation and International Affairs.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) supports
the concept of SB 2267, which establishes a peace mission committee within the Office of
International Affairs (OIA) of DBEDT and appropriates funds for the committee's activities and
programs. There have been many good ideas introduced this legislative session that support the
State's economic development goals. We hope the legislature will see it fit to support, pass and
fund these ideas, together with the priorities of the Executive's Supplemental Budget.

DBEDT, through the OIA, has placed a high priority on implementing the Hawaii Global
Links program, the objective of which is to prepare Hawaii's residents for the global economy.
The OIA emphasizes international trade, cultural and educational exchange activities, all which

lead to the better understanding of other people and cultures. Through the interchange of people, products and ideas, international peace based activities would be a natural outgrowth. The proposed peace mission committee and funding of \$500,000 as specified in the bill would be instrumental in helping the OIA to expand its existing business, cultural and educational priorities to include peace initiatives and activities. Without this funding, DBEDT is unable to expand beyond what it is currently doing with regards to the OIA.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

Date of Hearing: January 30, 2008

Committee: Senate Transportation and
International Affairs

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent

Title: S.B. No. 2267, Relating to the Office of International Relations

Purpose: Establishes a peace mission committee within the Office of
International Affairs to plan and implement peace missions to
other nations and organizations.

Department's Position: The Department of Education (Department) supports the Bill to
include the development of an international affairs and peace
education curriculum but urges that any curriculum be
developmentally appropriate and standards-based.
The Department defers to the Department of Business, Economic
Development, and Tourism, the identified expending agency, as to
funding priority.



THE UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
of the United States of America
— HAWAII DIVISION —
“UNITING THE WORLD WITH ALOHA”

“CELEBRATING THE 63rd ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS”

TESTIMONY FOR
SB#2267

Committee on Transportation & International Affairs
Wednesday, January 30, 2008
2:45 a.m., Room #224

The United Nations Association (UNA) – Hawaii division is writing in support of SB#2267 to establish a peace mission committee within the Office of International affairs.

In these times of crisis, peace initiatives are imperative.

Your support for SB #2267 is most appreciated.

“The time is right and the place is right.”

Mahalo, Joanne Tachibana, President
UNA-Hawaii Division
www.unahawaii.org
(808) 387-7271

Senator J. Kalani English, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Committee on Transportation and International Affairs
B. Jeannie Lum, Associate Professor
808 227-6752
Wednesday, January 30, 2008
2:45pm

I support SB 2267 Relating to the Office of International Relations.

Establishes a peace mission committee within the office of international affairs to plan and implement peace missions to other nations and organizations.

More than ever, historically this is a time where the nurturing of common goals of peace need to be developed in human relationships, between cities, states, and other nations towards building global cultures of peace. The State has taken the responsibility upon itself as legislative acts to commemorate Peace Day in September of every year. It has developed an Office of International Relations in which one of its primary duties is (Section 1b-6) "Develop an international affairs and peace education curriculum that includes studies of international affairs and peace initiatives" in a proactive manner. This bill puts the talk into the talk of Hawaii state legislators and will likewise bring nation-wide and world-wide attention to the peace and aloha culture of Hawaii. Adding this peace mission committee will bring good will to others and in return put Hawaii on the global map, increasing its visibility in the most positive way. Providing an active agenda for this peace mission committee will improve the economy and also the visibility of the University of Hawaii student exchange programs.

I urge you to pass and fund SB 2267!