

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 23 2012

RE: H.B. No. 1181

H.D. 1

Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui
President of the Senate
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2012
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs and Judiciary and Labor, to which was referred H.B. No. 1181, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO GOVERNMENT,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to bring Hawaii's laws relating to false claims against the State and the counties into compliance with the federal False Claims Act.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committees find that this measure allows any employee, contractor, or agent to be entitled to all relief necessary to make that employee, contractor, or agent whole, if that employee, contractor, or agent is discharged, demoted, suspended, threatened, harassed, or in any other manner discriminated against in the terms and conditions of employment, contract, or agency relationship because of lawful acts done by the employee, contractor, agent or associated others in furtherance of a qui tam action.

This measure ensures that Hawaii's laws comply with the federal False Claims Act. According to testimony of the Attorney General, this measure enables the State to continue to retain an additional ten percent of any civil recovery in cases involving federal programs.



As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs and Judiciary and Labor that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1181, H.D. 1, and recommend that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committees on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs and Judiciary and Labor,



CLAYTON HEE, Chair



WILL ESPERO, Chair



