

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2895

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 18 2016

RE: H.B. No. 2227
H.D. 2

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2016
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,
to which was referred H.B. No. 2227, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LANGUAGE ACCESS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate funds to continue the operations of the Statewide Language Access Resource Center and multilingual website pilot project within the Office of Language Access.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Language Access; Office of Language Access Advisory Council; American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i; Asian American Network for Cancer Awareness Research and Training; Faith Action for Community Equity; Filipino American Citizens League; Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights; National Federation of Filipino American Associations, Region 12; Nursing Advocates and Mentors, Inc.; Hawaii Filipino Lawyers Association; Ethnic Education Foundation of Hawaii; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Statewide Language Access Resource Center and the multilingual website pilot project, established pursuant to Act 217, Session Laws of Hawaii 2013, provide meaningful access to important state and state-funded benefits and services to persons who have a limited ability to read, write, speak, or understand English. While the establishment of the Statewide Language Access Resource Center and

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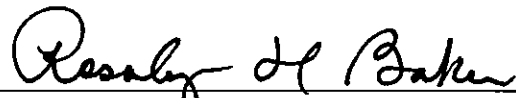


the multilingual website pilot project was undertaken by the Office of Language Access with advance preparation, the implementation of the pilot project was delayed due to unforeseen challenges associated with the transfer of the Office of Language Access from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to the Department of Health pursuant to Act 201, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012.

Your Committee further finds that more funding is necessary to maintain and continue the services for limited English proficient individuals through the Statewide Language Access Resource Center and the multilingual website pilot project.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2227, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Commerce, Consumer
Protection, and Health,



ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Eighth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
CPH

| | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| Bill / Resolution No.:* | Committee Referral: | Date: |
| HB 2227, HD2 | CPH, WAM | 3-15-16 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____ | | |
| The Recommendation is: | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 | <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 | <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313 | | |
| Members | Aye | Aye (WR) |
| Nay | Excused | |
| BAKER, Rosalyn H. (C) | / | |
| KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC) | / | |
| ESPERO, Will | / | |
| IHARA, Jr., Les | | / |
| NISHIHARA, Clarence K. | | / |
| RUDERMAN, Russell E. | | / |
| SLOM, Sam | / | |
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| TOTAL | 4 | 3 |
| Recommendation: | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted | <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted | |
| Chair's or Designee's Signature: | | |
| <i>Michelle N. Kidani</i> | | |
| Distribution: | | |
| Original File with Committee Report | Yellow Clerk's Office | Pink Drafting Agency |
| | | Goldenrod Committee File Copy |

*Only one measure per Record of Votes