

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

391

Honolulu, Hawaii

February 20, 2015

RE: H.B. No. 654

Honorable Joseph M. Souki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2015
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Economic Development & Business, to which was referred H.B. No. 654 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to enable Hawaii to collaborate with China toward mutual economic development by establishing a China-Hawaii Economic Council.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism testified in support of the intent of this measure.

As an island state in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, Hawaii often serves as the Asian gateway to the United States. Hawaii's geographical proximity and past associations with its Asian neighbors create a unique opportunity to encourage stronger cultural and business connections between Hawaii and Asian countries. Your Committee finds that establishing stronger relations with China through a China-Hawaii Economic Council would be an effective way to promote, support, and increase investment and trade with China, similar to what was realized through the establishment of a Japan-Hawaii Economic Council.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Business that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 654 and recommends that it be referred to the Committee on Finance.

HB654 HSCR EDB HMS 2015-1974



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Economic
Development & Business,



DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-eighth Legislature

HSCR 391

Record of Votes of the Committee on Economic Development & Business

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 654	Committee Referral: VMI, EOB, FIN	Date: 17 FEB 15		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
EDB Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. KAWAKAMI, Derek S.K. (C)	✓			
2. KONG, Sam Satoru (VC)	✓			
3. BROWER, Tom				✓
4. CACHOLA, Romy M.	✓			
5. CHOY, Isaac W.	✓			
6. ITO, Ken	✓			
7. OHNO, Takashi	✓			
8. ONISHI, Richard H.K.	✓			
9. TOKIOKA, James Kunane	✓			
10. TSUJI, Clift	✓			
11. WOODSON, Justin H.				✓
12. MATSUMOTO, Lauren Kealohilani	✓			
13. WARD, Gene				✓
TOTAL (13)	10			3
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: <u>James S. Kan</u>				
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