

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 23, 2016

RE: S.B. No. 2302
S.D. 1
H.D. 1

Honorable Joseph M. Souki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2016
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Economic Development & Business, to which was referred S.B. No. 2302, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DARK SKIES PROTECTION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to preserve the quality of Hawaii's night sky by reducing light pollution. Specifically, this measure establishes a Dark Skies Protection Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee) to assist the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) in the development of a statewide dark skies protection strategy to preserve dark night skies and reduce light pollution.

The Department of Land and Natural Resources, University of Hawaii, and a concerned individual testified in support of this measure. DBEDT testified in support of the intent of this measure.

The quality of the night sky in Hawaii is unique and is a valuable natural resource that needs to be protected. Artificial light reduces dark skies and directly impacts the quality of the night sky for astronomical observations in Hawaii, as well as biological resources of the islands by altering wildlife behavioral patterns. Your Committee finds that establishing an Advisory Committee will allow for the preservation of Hawaii's dark night skies, which is essential for Hawaii's astronomy industry and for the State's overall well-being.

SB2302 HD1 HSCR EDB HMS 2016-2780

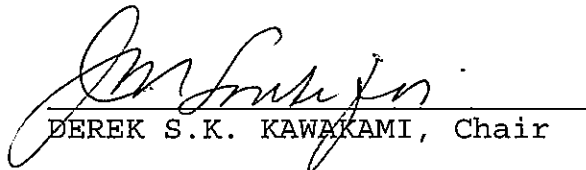


Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Including a representative from the University of Hawaii at Hilo on the Advisory Committee;
- (2) Including the protection of astronomical observations from Mauna Loa from the impacts of artificial light pollution as one of the principles on which to base the statewide dark skies protection strategy;
- (3) Including public safety issues related to the reduction in artificial light as an issue for evaluation and consideration in the development of proposed legislation to implement statewide protective lighting and light pollution reduction strategies by DBEDT, with assistance from the Advisory Committee;
- (4) Changing its effective date to February 19, 2022, to facilitate further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 2302, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2302, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

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

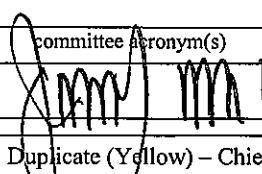

DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-eighth Legislature

HSCR 1171-14

Record of Votes of the Committee on Economic Development & Business

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 2302, SD1	Committee Referral: EDB FIN	Date: 3/17/2016		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" 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. DeCOITE, Lynn	✓			
7. ITO, Ken	✓			
8. OHNO, Takashi	✓			
9. ONISHI, Richard H.K.	✓			
10. TOKIOKA, James Kunane	✓			
11. TSUJI, Clift	✓			
12. WOODSON, Justin H.	✓			
13. MATSUMOTO, Lauren Kealohilani	✓			
14. WARD, Gene	✓			
TOTAL (14)	13			1
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: 				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				