

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 441

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 17 2017

RE: S.B. No. 153
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2017
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and
Military Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 153 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO POLICE REPORTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to allow surviving
immediate family members of murder or manslaughter victims to
access a copy of the closing report prepared by the investigating
police department, upon the conclusion of all criminal and civil
proceedings that arose from the offense.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Hawaii Association for Justice. Your Committee received
testimony in opposition to this measure from the Civil Beat Law
Center for the Public Interest. Your Committee received comments
on this measure from the Office of Information Practices.


Your Committee finds that making police reports available to
surviving family members of a victim of a violent crime resulting
in death is important for maintaining fairness and protecting the
well-being of the public. Currently, criminal defendants who
cause the death of another have access to police files relating to
the investigation, but surviving family members do not necessarily
have access to the same files. In addition, allowing surviving
family members to have access to final, or closing, police reports
would enhance police transparency and accountability.



Your Committee has amended this measure by removing the reference to section 92F-22, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to avoid any confusion with the existing Uniform Information Practices Act.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 153, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 153, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary and Labor.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental, and Military
Affairs,


CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Ninth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
PSM

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 153	Committee Referral: PSM, JDL	Date: 2/2/17
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The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
 If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312
 Pass, with amendments 2311
 Hold 2310
 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
NISHIHARA, Clarence K. (C)	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn (VC)	✓			
BAKER, Rosalyn H.	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les	✓			
THIELEN, Laura H.	✓			
TOTAL	5	0	0	0

Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature: _____

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*Only one measure per Record of Votes