

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1336

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 15 , 2019

RE: S.B. No. 227
S.D. 2
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2019
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness, to which was referred S.B. No. 227, S.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO IMMIGRATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Human Services to contract with non-profit providers to provide access to legal counsel for immigrants in immigration proceedings.

The Filipina Advocacy Network, O'ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, Filipinos for Affirmative Action, and several individuals supported this measure. The Honolulu County Republican Party and two individuals opposed this measure. The Department of Human Services provided comments.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the amount appropriated to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the expending agency to the Judiciary;



- (3) Requiring the Judiciary to contract with the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii to provide legal assistance and legal counsel to immigrants in determining legal status and citizenship, provide diversion to existing services, and otherwise provide counsel for existing rights; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that its intent is not to supplant existing nonprofit and county agencies that are currently providing legal services to aid immigrants in immigration proceedings.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 227, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 227, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Human Services &
Homelessness,



JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Chair



