

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 28 , 2020

RE: H.B. No. 2549

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2020
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Finance, to which was referred H.B. No. 2549 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the language and meaning of any proposed constitutional amendment and ratification question to be simple, concise, and direct;
- (2) Allow the presiding officers of the Legislature to request a written opinion from the Supreme Court stating whether a proposed constitutional amendment and ratification question are simple, concise, and direct;
- (3) Require the Supreme Court to provide a written opinion within forty-eight hours of receipt of the request;
- (4) Require, for any written opinion by the Supreme Court that invalidates a constitutional ratification question, a detailed and specific explanation of the reasons for the invalidation; and
- (5) Prohibit any appeal of a written opinion.



Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary and Common Cause Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2549 and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Finance,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sylvia Luke', is written over a horizontal line.

SYLVIA LUKE, Chair



