

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 379 -22

Honolulu, Hawaii
FEB 15 , 2022

RE: H.B. No. 1759

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2022
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 1759 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LEGAL SERVICES FOR LOW-INCOME IMMIGRANTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Judiciary to contract with nonprofit organizations to provide legal counsel and assistance to low-income immigrants in immigration proceedings, including deportation defense and asylum, and for any other immigration legal issues.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender, Office of Community Services, Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii, Filipina Advocacy Network, Hawai'i Access to Justice Commission, The Legal Clinic, Pacific Gateway Center, Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights, Medical-Legal Partnership for Children in Hawai'i, Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights, and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that many immigrants lack the resources to obtain legal representation to help navigate the highly complex immigration court process, which may result in detainment or

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deportation. This measure will allow immigrants to obtain vital legal counsel and assistance to ensure a more fair process.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1759 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

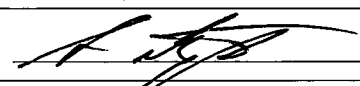
Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary &
Hawaiian Affairs,



MARK M. NAKASHIMA, Chair



Record of Votes of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Bill/Resolution No.: HB1759	Committee Referral: JHA, FIN	Date: 2-3-22		
<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)				
JHA Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. NAKASHIMA, Mark M. (C)	✓			
2. MATAYOSHI, Scot Z. (VC)	✓			
3. ICHIYAMA, Linda	✓			
4. KOBAYASHI, Dale T.	✓			
5. LoPRESTI, Matthew S.				✓
6. LOWEN, Nicole E.				✓
7. McKELVEY, Angus L.K.		✓		
8. NAKAMURA, Nadine K.	✓			
9. TAKUMI, Roy M.	✓			
10. TODD, Chris	✓			
11. TOKIOKA, James Kunane	✓			
12. WARD, Gene				✓
TOTAL (12)	8	1	0	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: 				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				