

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **2711**

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 18 2022

RE: S.B. No. 3075
S.D. 2

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2022
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 3075, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FRANCHISE TAX,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to ensure that \$2,000,000 is deposited annually into the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' compliance resolution fund, which is currently funded by franchise tax revenues.

Specifically, this measure requires that, in years where franchise tax revenues are insufficient, the difference shall be made up by a deposit of income tax revenues.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Division of Financial Institutions; Department of Taxation; and Hawaii Bankers Association.

Your Committee received written comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that Article III, section 14, of the Hawaii State Constitution provides that "[e]ach law shall embrace but one subject, which shall be expressed in its title." A title must include a distinct reference to the subject matter to which



it relates and also cover only one subject. Thus, the scope of the title cannot be narrower than the scope of the subject matter of the bill. Your Committee notes that the title of this measure is "A Bill for an Act Relating to Franchise Tax." In the context of this measure, the term "franchise tax" refers to the franchise tax imposed on banks and other financial corporations pursuant to Chapter 241, Hawaii Revised Statutes. Your Committee also finds that the intent of this measure is to address a shortfall in the \$2,000,000 earmarked from the franchise tax collections to be deposited into the compliance resolution fund. Accordingly, the measure requires the deposit of income tax revenues, collected pursuant to Chapter 235, Hawaii Revised Statutes, into the compliance resolution fund to make up the shortfall. Your Committee notes concerns that, by amending the income tax law, the contents of this measure may exceed the scope of its title.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2050, to facilitate further discussion on the measure;
- (2) Clarifying the taxable years to which the provisions of the measure that amend the income tax law shall apply; and
- (3) Making technical nonsubstantive amendments for purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 3075, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 3075, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,


DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair



