

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAY 02 2023

RE: S.B. No. 813
S.D. 1
H.D. 2
C.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2023
State of Hawaii

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2023
State of Hawaii

Sirs:

Your Committee on Conference on the disagreeing vote of the Senate to the amendments proposed by the House of Representatives in S.B. No. 813, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COURT INTERPRETERS,"

having met, and after full and free discussion, has agreed to recommend and does recommend to the respective Houses the final passage of this bill in an amended form.

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Beginning in 2026 and every three years thereafter, require the Judiciary to conduct a study on interpreter fees;
- (2) Require the Judiciary to increase the hourly fees, mileage reimbursement rate, and commuter-time compensation rate for court interpreters; and
- (3) Appropriate funds.



Your Committee on Conference finds that court interpreters are independent contractors of the Judiciary, who play an integral role in the administration of justice and provide critical language access in the State's courts. The compensation for court interpreters has remained unchanged for the most part since it was established in 2007. This measure will help determine whether to increase the fees and rates for court interpreters.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

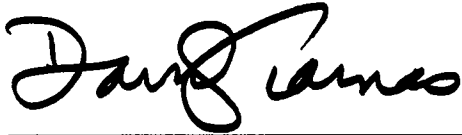
- (1) Adding the requisite information for making an appropriation in excess of the general fund expenditure ceiling pursuant to article VII, section 9, of the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (2) Removing language that would have required the Judiciary to increase the hourly fees, mileage reimbursement rate, and commuter-time compensation rate for court interpreters;
- (3) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$20,000 for fiscal year 2023-2024 to fund the study for annual adjustments of fees for court interpreters;
- (4) Amending section 2 to reflect its amended purpose;
- (5) Making it effective on July 1, 2023; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 813, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 813, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

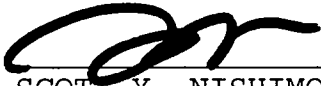


Respectfully submitted on behalf
of the managers:

ON THE PART OF THE HOUSE

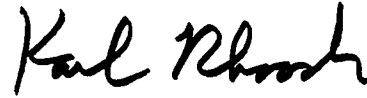


DAVID A. TARNAS
Co-Chair

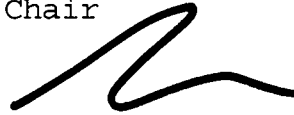


SCOTT Y. NISHIMOTO
Co-Chair

ON THE PART OF THE SENATE



KARL RHOADS
Chair



MAILE S.L. SHIMABUKURO
Co-Chair



Hawai'i State Legislature

CCR 182

Record of Votes of a
Conference Committee

Bill / Concurrent Resolution No.: SB 813, SD 1, HD 2	Date/Time: <i>9/28/23 ; 4:59 pm</i>
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The recommendation of the House and Senate managers is to pass with amendments (CD).

The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision.

The recommendation of the Senate Manager(s) is to AGREE to the House amendments made to the Senate Measure

The recommendation of the House Manager(s) is to AGREE to the Senate amendments made to the House Measure.

Senate Managers	A	WR	N	E	House Managers	A	WR	N	E
RHOADS, Karl, Chr.	✓				TARNAS, David A., Co-Chr.	✓			
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L., Co-Chr.	✓				NISHIMOTO, Scott Y., Co-Chr.	✓			
AWA, Brenton	✓				GANADEN, Sonny				✓
					SOUZA, Kanani	✓			
TOTAL	3	0	0	0	TOTAL	3	0	0	1

A = Aye WR = Aye with Reservations N = Nay E = Excused

Senate Recommendation is:
 Adopted Not Adopted

House Recommendation is:
 Adopted Not Adopted

Senate Lead Chair's or Designee's Signature:
Karl Rhoads

House Lead Chair's or Designee's Signature:
David Tarnas

Distribution: **Original** **Yellow** **Pink** **Goldenrod**
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