

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

2106

Honolulu, Hawaii

JAN 30 2024

RE: S.B. No. 2215

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-Second State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2024  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred S.B. No. 2215 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ADMINISTRATIVE FINES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to update the maximum administrative fines allowed for violations of chapters 84 and 97, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to standards of conduct and lobbyists, respectively.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Ethics Commission.

Your Committee finds that in recent years, instances of ethical violations underscore the need for a more robust deterrent to dissuade individuals from engaging in activities that compromise public trust. Most jurisdictions have a maximum fine between \$5,000 and \$10,000 for ethics violations, making the State's existing maximum fine of \$1,000 on the lower end of the scale. Your Committee believes that increasing the maximum fine would proactively discourage unethical behavior. This measure will allow the State to maintain the highest standards of ethical behavior among public officials and employees.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B.



No. 2215 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

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



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KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-Second Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Judiciary**  
**JDC**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB 2215</b>	Committee Referral: <b>JDC, WAM</b>	Date: <b>01 / 26 / 24</b>
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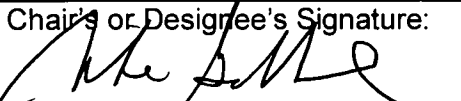
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.  
 If so, then the previous decision was to: \_\_\_\_\_

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312   
 Pass, with amendments 2311   
 Hold 2310   
 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)	✓			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	✓			
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.			✓	
AWA, Brenton	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	

Recommendation:   
 Adopted   
 Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:  


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\*Only one measure per Record of Votes