

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

849

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 6, 2015

RE: H.B. No. 444
H.D. 3

Honorable Joseph M. Souki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2015
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Finance, to which was referred H.B. No. 444, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO BEACH PROTECTION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to conserve and restore Hawaii's beaches by expanding the scope of the Department of Land and Natural Resources' Beach Restoration Plans and Beach Restoration Special Fund to include beach conservation and increasing the allocation of funds from the Transient Accommodations Tax for beach restoration and conservation.

The Nature Conservancy, Outrigger Enterprises Group, and Hawaii Lodging & Tourism Association provided testimony in support of this measure. The Department of Land and Natural Resources, Department of Budget and Finance, Office of the Auditor, Hawaii Tourism Authority, and Tax Foundation of Hawaii provided comments.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the annual allocation and the required balance amount from the Transient Accommodations Tax to be made to the Beach Restoration and Conservation Special Fund to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2030, to allow for further discussion; and

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- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 444, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 444, H.D. 3.

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



