

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

687

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 17 , 2023

RE: H.B. No. 834
H.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 834, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to recognize American Sign Language as a fully developed, autonomous, natural language with its own grammar, syntax, vocabulary, and cultural heritage.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission, Disability and Communication Access Board, Hawaii Disability Rights Center, and ten individuals.

Your Committee finds that American Sign Language is a distinct language with its own culture and identity. This measure recognizes American Sign Language as it is the most predominant sign language of deaf communities in the United States.

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. 834, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

2023-1832 HB834 HD1 HSCR HMSO



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



DAVID A. TARNAS, Chair



