

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1277

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 21 2025

RE: H.B. No. 1098
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health and Human Services, to which was referred H.B. No. 1098, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMES AGAINST PROTECTIVE SERVICES WORKERS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Specify that intentionally or knowingly causing bodily injury to a protective services worker who is engaged in the performance of the worker's duties constitutes the offense of assault in the second degree, which is a class C felony; and
- (2) Clarify that a protective services worker is a public servant for the purposes of terroristic threatening in the first degree.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services and Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that protective service workers provide an essential service to the State, at great risk to themselves, by investigating and addressing the abuse and neglect of children and



vulnerable adults. Due to the violent nature of the situations they investigate, protective service workers are often targets of physical violence and death threats. Fearing for their safety impacts many protective service workers' ability to focus on their work and contributes to burnout and staffing vacancies. This measure promotes the health and well-being of essential staff by increasing penalties for assaulting a protective service worker.

Your Committee has amended this measure by inserting an effective date of December 31, 2050, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health and Human Services that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1098, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1098, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Health and Human
Services,



JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Third Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Health and Human Services
HHS

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB1098, HD1	Committee Referral: HHS, JDC	Date: 3/19/25
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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:

<input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310	<input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313
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Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A. (C)	✓			
AQUINO, Henry J.C. (VC)	✓			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	✓			
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt				✓
TOTAL	4			1

Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:

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***Only one measure per Record of Votes**