

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1675

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 04 2025

RE: H.B. No. 706  
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 Judiciary, to which was referred H.B. No. 706, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHWAY SAFETY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require all skateboard users under the age of sixteen to wear a helmet while operating a skateboard.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation, Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition, and one individual.

Your Committee finds that according to the National Institute on Mental Health, the pre-frontal cortex of a person's brain is one of the last parts to fully mature. The pre-frontal cortex is a critical area of the brain that is responsible for skills like planning, prioritizing, and making good decisions, and does not fully develop until a person is in their mid-to-late twenties. Your Committee further finds that, according to the National Library of Medicine, wearing a helmet while skateboarding reduces the risk of head injuries by up to eighty-eight percent. This measure will protect the still developing and maturing brains of children in the State by requiring them to wear a helmet while operating a skateboard.



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 H.B. No. 706, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

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



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KARL RHOADS, Chair





The Senate  
Thirty-Third Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes  
Committee on Judiciary  
JDC**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 706 HD/SDI	TCA, JDC	3/27/25		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310		
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)	✓			
CHANG, Stanley	✓			
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.				✓
AWA, Brenton	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	4	0	0	1
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <span style="margin-left: 200px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted</span>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
<i>Karl Rhoads</i>				
Distribution:				
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency	Goldenrod Committee File Copy	

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes