

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 02 2025

RE: H.B. No. 727
H.D. 1
S.D. 2

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 727, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE WOMEN'S COURT,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to extend and appropriate moneys for the Women's Court pilot program.

More specifically, the measure:

- (1) Makes permanent the Women's Court pilot program in the First Circuit; and
- (2) Establishes a three-year Women's Court pilot program in the Kona division of the Third Circuit.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Judiciary, Department of Health, Maui County Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, State Council on Mental Health, League of Women Voters of Hawaii, Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition, Community Alliance on Prisons, and one individual.

Your Committee finds that establishing a permanent Women's Court in the First Circuit and a Women's Court pilot program in the Third Circuit will help reduce recidivism by providing



trauma-informed, gender-responsive treatment programs for incarcerated women in the State.

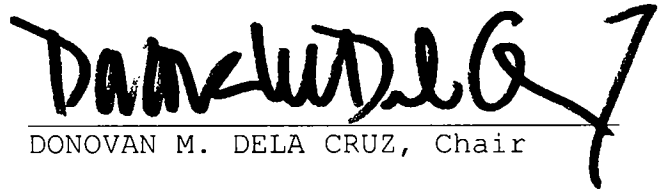
Your Committee notes that the Department of Health requests \$221,788 to support the Kona division pilot program, including:

- (1) \$145,000 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) Clinical Psychologist; and
- (2) \$76,788 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) Social Worker or Human Services professional.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the appropriations to unspecified amounts to facilitate further discussion on the measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 727, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 727, H.D. 1, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,


DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB727 HD1 SD1	JDC, WAM	3/31/2029		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312</div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311</div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310</div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313</div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y. (VC)	X			
AQUINO, Henry J.C.	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	X			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	X			
INOUE, Lorraine R.	X			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X			
KIM, Donna Mercado	X			
LEE, Chris	X			
WAKAI, Glenn	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
TOTAL	13	0	0	0
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: small;"> <div>Distribution: Original File with Committee Report</div> <div>Yellow Clerk's Office</div> <div>Pink Drafting Agency</div> <div>Goldenrod Committee File Copy</div> </div>				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes