

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

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Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 27 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 998

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 998 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONTENTS OF CITATIONS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to clarify that the omission of certain information or any error in a citation does not constitute ground for dismissal of a charge or for reversal of a conviction, if the omission or error did not prejudice the defendant.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that existing law requires certain information to be included in citations issued in lieu of arrest, including a Social Security number and a residence address. However, in practice, law enforcement officers frequently encounter individuals who are unable or unwilling to provide this information, which has led to dismissals of citations based on technical omissions. This measure clarifies that the absence of certain unavailable information or minor citation errors should not automatically result in dismissal or reversal of a conviction if the defendant is not prejudiced.

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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. 998 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

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



DAVID A. TARNAS, Chair



