

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

947

Honolulu, Hawaii

**FEB 28 2025**

RE: S.B. No. 1419  
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 Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 1419, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ACT 253, SESSION LAWS OF HAWAII 2023,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to amend Act 253, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, to better meet the needs of blind and low-vision individuals.

Specifically, this measure:

- (1) Renames the Neighbor Islands Blind and Visually Impaired Service Pilot Program as the Neighbor Islands Blind and Low Vision Service Pilot Program; and
- (2) Clarifies the objectives and timeline of the pilot program.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services, National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii, Big Island Deaf Club, Signs of Fun Organization, and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that Act 253, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, established the Neighbor Islands Blind and Visually Impaired



Pilot Program within the Department of Human Services. Your Committee further finds that the implementation of the pilot program was delayed until July 2024 because Department of Human Services staff were responding to the needs of those who were impacted by the 2023 Maui wildfires.

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 S.B. No. 1419, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

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.:* <b>SB1419 SD1</b>	Committee Referral: <b>HHS, WAM</b>	Date: <b>2-27-25</b>							
<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									
<b>Members</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Aye (WR)</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Excused</b>					
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								
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>					
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted									
Chair's or Designee's Signature: _____									
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;"><b>Distribution:</b></td> <td style="width: 25%;">Original File with Committee Report</td> <td style="width: 25%;">Yellow Clerk's Office</td> <td style="width: 25%;">Pink Drafting Agency</td> <td style="width: 20%;">Goldenrod Committee File Copy</td> </tr> </table>					<b>Distribution:</b>	Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency	Goldenrod Committee File Copy
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\*Only one measure per Record of Votes