

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 28 2025

RE: S.B. No. 344
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 S.B.
No. 344, 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 the use
of a safety helmet by anyone under the age of sixteen while riding
a skateboard on roadways and streets.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Transportation, AAA Hawai'i, and one
individual.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this
measure from one individual.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from one
individual.

Your Committee finds that skateboard accidents on roadways
and streets can result in serious injury to the skateboard user,
including head trauma. Your Committee also finds that existing
law in the State protects bicyclists under the age of sixteen from
head trauma by requiring operators to wear a helmet. Your
Committee believes that, given the neurologic outcomes of head
trauma and functional consequences of facial fractures, especially



among adolescents, more aggressive helmet use for skateboard users is necessary. This measure will reduce the risk of head injuries and provide additional protection for all roadway users.

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 S.B. No. 344, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

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



KARL RHOADS, Chair



**Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary
JDC**

*Only one measure per Record of Votes