

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 28 2025

RE: S.B. No. 716
S.D. 2

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Ways and Means and Judiciary, to which was referred S.B. No. 716, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HAWAII EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
LAW,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to increase efficiency and fairness of the Hawaii employment security law.

Specifically, this measure:

- (1) Repeals the requirement for unemployed individuals to make their work availability accessible online in order to qualify for unemployment benefits;
- (2) Expands the circumstances for which the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations may waive the requirements for eligible individuals to register to work and report to an employment office;
- (3) Requires notices of determinations and documentation relating to appeals to be sent electronically, unless the election for mail is made; and
- (4) Allows an individual to change an elected withholding status more than once during a benefit year.




Your Committees received written comments in support of this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and one individual.

Your Committees find that the amendments made by this measure will help to streamline the work registration process and reduce unemployment benefit claim delays and improper denials caused by claimants struggling to navigate the unemployment benefits claim system.

Your Committees have amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 2050, to facilitate further discussion on the measure.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Ways and Means and Judiciary that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 716, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 716, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Ways and Means
and Judiciary,



KARL RHOADS, Chair

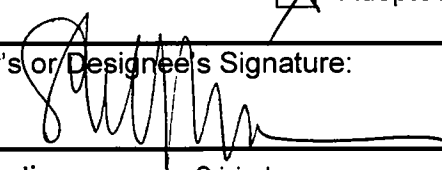


DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:* <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">SB716 SD1</div>	Committee Referral: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">LBT, WAM / JDC</div>	Date: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">2-19-2025</div>		
<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: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted </div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Distribution:</div> <div> 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

The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary
JDC

Bill / Resolution No.:* <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">SB 716, SD1</div>	Committee Referral: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">LBT, WAM/JDC</div>	Date: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">2/19/25</div>										
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Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused								
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓											
GABBARD, Mike (VC)				✓								
CHANG, Stanley	✓											
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.	✓											
AWA, Brenton	✓											
TOTAL	4			1								
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted </div>												
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive; margin-left: 20px;">[Signature]</div>												
<table style="width: 100%; font-size: 0.8em;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">Distribution:</td> <td style="width: 25%;">Original</td> <td style="width: 25%;">Yellow</td> <td style="width: 25%;">Pink</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>File with Committee Report</td> <td>Clerk's Office</td> <td>Drafting Agency</td> </tr> </table> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 5px;"> Goldenrod Committee File Copy </div>					Distribution:	Original	Yellow	Pink		File with Committee Report	Clerk's Office	Drafting Agency
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