

RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

2025-2026

Preface to House Rules

Members of the House of Representatives hold positions of public trust and shall conduct themselves in a manner which reflects credit upon the Legislature.

To this end, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to:

- (1) Provide the general public with a meaningful opportunity to participate in the legislative process. Public participation is a basic tenet of our democratic process. Public participation is vital to maintaining a check on the legislative process and legislative decisions.
- (2) Prevent discrimination against members and staff. No member or staff shall be discriminated against based on race, sex, age, religion, color, ancestry, mental or physical disability, genetic information, citizenship, national origin, veteran/military status, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding or related medical condition, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, arrest and court record, domestic or sexual violence victim status, credit history, whistleblower status, or any other status or condition that is protected by state or federal law.
- (3) Ensure a work environment free from violence, threats of violence, harassment, intimidation, and other disruptive behavior.

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PART I. ORGANIZING THE HOUSE**Rule 1. Election of Officers; Selection of Party Leaders; Succession**

- 1.1. When the House convenes, the member from the First Representative District shall act as temporary presiding officer. The House shall then immediately elect a temporary chair. The temporary chair shall appoint a temporary Chief Clerk and a credentials committee of no fewer than three members.
- 1.2. The credentials committee shall immediately examine the credentials of the members elected. Upon verification that the credentials are in order, the credentials committee shall report this to the House, and the temporary chair shall order the temporary Chief Clerk to call the roll.
- 1.3. The temporary chair shall then appoint a committee of no fewer than three members to wait upon a justice of the Supreme Court or a judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals or Circuit Court to administer the oath of office, as required by the Constitution of the State of Hawaii. After the oath has been duly administered, the House shall organize by electing by resolution, a Speaker, Vice Speaker, Chief Clerk, Assistant Chief Clerk, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms and by adopting Rules.
- 1.4. The members of the majority and minority parties shall designate, respectively, a Leader, a Caucus Leader, a Floor Leader, Whips, Assistant Leaders, and Assistant Floor Leaders, or other positions as they may choose to have.
- 1.5. The Speaker and Vice Speaker shall hold office during the term for which they are elected to the House, unless sooner removed by majority vote of the House. If they are reelected to membership in the House for the succeeding term, they shall retain their respective positions until the day before the opening day of the succeeding Legislature.
- 1.6. The Majority Leader, Majority Caucus Leader, Majority Floor Leader, Minority Leader, Minority Caucus Leader, Minority Floor Leader, Whips, Assistant Leaders, and Assistant Floor Leaders as the House members of the majority and minority parties shall hold office during the term for which they were elected to the House, unless sooner removed by their respective parties.
- 1.7. If the office of Speaker becomes vacant, the Vice Speaker shall serve as acting Speaker until a successor Speaker is duly elected by the House.
- 1.8. Any vacancy in the office of Speaker and Vice Speaker shall be filled by election by the House.

PART II. OFFICERS, PARTY LEADERS, AND EMPLOYEES**Rule 2. The Speaker****2.1.** It shall be the duty of the Speaker to:

- (1) Open the meetings of the House;
- (2) Maintain order in the House Chamber and require proper decorum at all times on the part of all those present in the House Chamber;
- (3) Announce the business before the House in the order prescribed by these Rules;
- (4) Receive all matters brought properly before the House and submit them to the House, and call for votes on these matters and announce the results of the votes;
- (5) Consult with and advise the committees of the House and assist them in their work as an ex officio member without vote;
- (6) Receive all communications from other branches of the Government and present them to the House;
- (7) Assign to each member of the House a seat on the floor of the House; until the Speaker assigns seats to the members, they may occupy any vacant seat;
- (8) Authenticate all acts of the House by signing appropriate documentation;
- (9) Make known the Rules of Order upon request and decide all questions of order, subject to appeal to the House;
- (10) Issue warrants to arrest offenders upon the order of the House, and issue subpoena and subpoena duces tecum requiring the attendance of witnesses or the production of books, documents, or other evidence in any matter pending before the House or any committee;
- (11) Clear the House of any or all persons except its members and officers if the House adopts a motion to require it, or if there is a disturbance or disorderly conduct at any time;
- (12) Direct committees of the House to consider messages from the Governor or other communications from the executive;
- (13) Appoint any member to preside over the meetings of the House if the Vice Speaker, Majority Leader, and Majority Floor Leader are not available to perform such duties, but such substitution shall not extend beyond an adjournment;
- (14) Within four session days, refer all bills to committees, subject to an appeal to the House. In referring bills to one or more standing committees, the first referral shall be to the standing committee whose area of responsibility as described in Part III of these Rules is most closely related to the subject matter contained in the bill being referred. In the case of multiple committee referrals, the Speaker shall name the standing committee referred to in the sentence immediately preceding as the committee having primary responsibility for making recommendations for action on the bills so referred. However, where more than one standing committee could qualify as the committee having primary responsibility, preference shall be given to the committee having jurisdiction on a statewide, rather than a local, basis.

The chair of a standing committee affected by a referral of a bill may appeal the referral to the Speaker within 24 hours from the time the referral sheet containing the subject referral is made available to the members of the House. The Speaker shall review the appeal and shall meet with the chair and the chair(s) of the standing committee(s) affected by the referral to settle their differences. If the Speaker is unable to settle the differences between and among the chairs of the standing committees involved within 48 hours after the filing of the appeal, the Speaker shall immediately forward the appeal to the Review Panel, which shall make its recommendation to the Speaker within 24 hours after receipt of the appeal. If the Speaker shall concur with the recommendation of the Review Panel, the referral of the bill shall stand or the bill shall be re-referred, as the case may be, according to or consistent with the recommendation. If the Speaker disagrees with the recommendation of the Review Panel, the Speaker shall submit reasons in writing in support of the Speaker's decision to the Review Panel and the chairs of the standing committees involved within 24 hours of the receipt of the recommendation from the Review Panel. The Speaker's decision shall be the final disposition of the matter.

The Review Panel shall be composed of the Majority Leader who shall serve as chair, the Vice Speaker, and Majority Floor Leader;

- (15) Appoint the chair and members of conference committees pursuant to Rule 16;
- (16) Establish final dates for action on legislation. These shall include the final date for introducing bills pursuant to Rule 34.4, the final date for third reading of House bills, the final date for third reading of Senate bills, the final date for approving conference committee agreements and drafts of bills, the final date for final reading of the General Appropriations Bill, and the final date for final reading of the Supplemental Appropriations Bill. The Speaker shall coordinate with the President of the Senate to establish these final dates within seven days after the opening of the legislative session;
- (17) Notify members of the names of individuals nominated for or appointed to a task force, commission, working group, or similar position requiring the Speaker to nominate individuals for such a position. The Speaker, or the Speaker's designee, shall maintain a master list that shows all of the individuals nominated or appointed by the Speaker, along with the terms of service for these nominees and the date when a subsequent nomination will have to be named and/or filled by the Speaker; and
- (18) Perform other duties required by law or these Rules.

2.2. To facilitate House floor proceedings, the Speaker may establish dates for a consent calendar consisting of all third and/or final reading bills that have not been selected for debate by any member. Said bills shall be considered without debate, but members shall be permitted to insert into the House Journal written remarks in support of or in opposition to the measure, consistent with the usual practices of the House. If a consent calendar is established pursuant to this rule, the Speaker shall set the deadlines for members to communicate to the Chief Clerk their intention to debate calendared bills.

- 2.3. The Speaker after giving all members at least 15 days prior written notice may authorize legal action on behalf of the House and shall notify members of non-confidential legal action taken on behalf of the House, provided no other external legal actions affecting the Legislature's interest shall necessitate more expedient action by the House. The Speaker shall not less than annually report the status of each legal action and disclose expenditures and costs to the members.

Rule 3. The Vice Speaker

The Vice Speaker shall consult with and advise the standing committees and assist them in their work and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Speaker. In the absence of the Speaker, the Vice Speaker shall exercise all the duties and powers of the Speaker.

Rule 4. Party Leaders

- 4.1. The majority and minority parties may choose to have Leaders, Caucus Leaders, Floor Leaders, Whips, Assistant Leaders, and Assistant Floor Leaders. These positions shall perform such duties as may be assigned by their respective memberships.
- 4.2. If the Speaker and Vice Speaker are absent when the House convenes, the Majority Leader or Majority Floor Leader, in that order, may convene the House and shall serve as Acting Speaker until the Speaker or Vice Speaker returns.

Rule 5. The Chief Clerk

- 5.1. The Chief Clerk shall be responsible for the safekeeping of all records of the House. The Chief Clerk shall retain possession of all original documents, unless the Speaker orders the Chief Clerk to release the records to someone else.
- 5.2. The Chief Clerk shall make a record each day of all matters brought before the House. This record shall state in a complete and concise manner, the nature of the matters brought before the House, the names of their introducers, and the date and day of the session on which the House considered the matters. This daily record and such additional matters as the Speaker may order the Chief Clerk to include in it shall constitute the Journal of the House, a copy of which shall be made available on the following session day or as soon thereafter as practicable. The House shall approve the Journal, subject to corrections, by vote of the House. However, the House may dispense with the reading of the Journal by majority vote.
- 5.3. The Chief Clerk shall read all bills, resolutions, and other matters aloud to the House when the House requires it.
- 5.4. The Chief Clerk shall immediately forward all communications and other matters the Chief Clerk receives to the parties to whom they are addressed.
- 5.5. The Chief Clerk shall deliver immediately to the chairs of the appropriate committees all matters duly referred to those committees.
- 5.6. The Chief Clerk shall maintain for the committees of the House a record of subjects contained in messages from the Governor, which are referred to the committees.
- 5.7. The Chief Clerk shall keep a record of all questions of order and the decision on each of them, and the Chief Clerk shall append this record to the Journal at the close of the session.
- 5.8. The Chief Clerk shall perform all other duties appropriate to the Chief Clerk's office that the House or the law assigns.

Rule 6. Assistant Chief Clerk

The Assistant Chief Clerk of the House shall assist the Chief Clerk in all duties. In the absence of the Chief Clerk, the Assistant Chief Clerk shall perform all duties of the Chief Clerk.

Rule 7. Sergeant-at-Arms

- 7.1. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall:
- (1) Execute the orders of the Speaker;
 - (2) Attend every session of the House;
 - (3) Maintain order among persons who attend the sessions of the House;
 - (4) Notify the presiding officer of the presence of persons who have communications for the House or who otherwise are of interest to the House;
 - (5) Keep the entrances and exits of the House clear at all times, and keep from the floor of the House all persons except members of the House, authorized employees of the House, and guests of the House;
 - (6) If requested, maintain order among persons attending meetings or hearings of committees of the House;
 - (7) Serve all orders or process directed by the Speaker or the House;
 - (8) Make all arrests ordered by the Speaker or the House and restrain persons in custody;
 - (9) Be responsible for the House postal service; and
 - (10) Be responsible for the House's safety and security operations, including emergency procedures.
- 7.2. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall be responsible for making purchases for the House in accordance with the House Administrative and Financial Manual.

- 7.3. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall be custodian of all property of the House and shall perform all duties related to its safeguard, care, and maintenance as provided in Part VIII of the House Administrative and Financial Manual.

Rule 8. Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms

The Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms shall assist the Sergeant-at-Arms in all duties. In the absence of the Sergeant-at-Arms, the designated Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms shall perform all duties of the Sergeant-at-Arms.

Rule 9. Officers and Employees: Responsibilities; Salaries

- 9.1. In addition to the responsibilities assigned by law and these Rules, all officers and employees of the House may be assigned responsibilities by their respective appointing authorities.
- 9.2. The pay of each member shall be pursuant to Article XVI, Section 3.5 of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii. Officers and employees of the House shall be employed and paid as authorized in the House Administrative and Financial Manual.

Rule 10. Officers and Employees: Floor Session Attire

While present on the floor of the House Chamber, each member shall be dressed in court attire; provided that on Fridays, any member may dress in aloha attire. "Court attire" means coat and tie for men and jackets for women.

PART III. COMMITTEES

Rule 11. Standing Committees: Composition; Chair; Decision-making; Reports

- 11.1. Standing committees shall be committees established to consider and report on all bills, petitions, resolutions, budgets, and any other matters referred to such committees.
- 11.2. The composition of the standing committees shall be as follows:
- (1) The membership of each standing committee shall be appointed by the Speaker. The respective chairs and vice-chairs of each standing committee shall be appointed by the Speaker; and
 - (2) The membership of each standing committee, including the designation of the chair and vice-chair shall be provided for by resolution, provided, however, that the composition of the committee shall be on a proportional basis with the members of each party.
- 11.3. The chair of each standing committee shall call and preside over all standing committee meetings; determine the order of deliberations on bills, resolutions, and other matters over which the standing committee as a whole retains jurisdiction; coordinate the scheduling of meetings and public hearings of the standing committee and assure that such schedules and agendas are posted or distributed as required by these Rules; establish guidelines to coordinate the flow of work to assure that directions of the House are fulfilled; supervise the work of the committee staff; and supervise the maintenance and disposition of the records of proceedings of the standing committee. The vice-chair shall, at the request of the chair, assist the chair in the performance of any duties. The vice-chair shall perform the duties of the chair in the chair's absence.

If the chair and vice-chair are unavailable to preside over a committee meeting, the Speaker may designate a committee member from the majority party to preside over the meeting.

If the chair and vice-chair are unavailable to sign a meeting notice, committee report, or other committee document in time to meet an applicable deadline, the Speaker may sign the document.

If a chair of a standing committee refuses a request of a majority of the committee members to set for public hearing a bill or resolution referred to the committee, the majority of the committee members may petition the Review Panel established under Rule 2.1(14) to compel the chair to set the bill or resolution for public hearing. The Review Panel shall establish a process pursuant to which the Review Panel shall receive and consider the petition and shall make a recommendation to the Speaker. If the Speaker concurs with the recommendation of the Review Panel, the chair shall either be sustained or be directed to duly set the bill or resolution for public hearing at the next available date according to or consistent with the recommendation. If the chair refuses to comply with the order of the Speaker, then the vice-chair shall act as chair for the purpose of hearing the bill or resolution under consideration. If the vice-chair refuses, then the Speaker may appoint any member of the House to act as temporary chair. If the Speaker objects to the recommendation of the Review Panel, the Speaker shall submit reasons in writing to support the Speaker's decision, which shall be the final disposition of the matter.

- 11.4. The chair of each standing committee shall keep a record of public hearings and shall file the same with the State Archives, through the Speaker as soon as practicable after each session.

11.5. *Standing Committee Meetings.*

- (1) Meetings (hearings and informational briefings) shall be held in public, be simultaneously broadcast, and be recorded for subsequent viewing on the legislative platform. The public may attend meetings in person or via broadcast. Meeting notices shall include instructions relating to public participation and public testimony. In the event of any unforeseeable or unavoidable circumstances that are beyond the control of the House or any other party, the committee may (a) proceed without simultaneous broadcast or (b) cancel or reschedule the meeting.
- (2) Notice of meetings shall be publicly posted or announced on the House floor at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Except for notices posted by the Committee on Finance, notice shall be posted before 4:30 p.m. on the last day of the work week for a hearing to be held on the following Monday or Tuesday. Notice of meetings may be shortened at the discretion of the Speaker upon request on the House floor by a chair or vice-chair and upon good cause shown.
- (3) As practicable, standing committees shall schedule their meetings at times and at places as are convenient for attendance by the general

public and shall, in coordination with other committees of the House or Senate, endeavor to hold joint meetings and public hearings on matters of mutual interest.

- (4) The House will make available to the committee members and the public any testimony that is submitted to the standing committee prior to or at the applicable testimony submission deadline, at least two hours before the publicly-noticed time of the meeting or briefing. Committee chairs are encouraged to release testimony to committee members and the public as early as possible. All written testimony received by the committee for decision making purposes will be made available to the public as soon as is practicable.
- (5) No bill or resolution other than a congratulatory resolution shall be reported out of a standing committee unless the measure shall have received a public hearing in the House; provided that a bill that contains only a reference to the general idea of the bill in short form and contemplates the subsequent drafting of the specific details in long form may be reported out of a standing committee without a public hearing so long as the bill is reported out:
 - (a) In an amended form containing the substantive contents of the bill in long form;
 - (b) Recommending that the bill be recommitted to the same committee for the purpose of holding a public hearing thereon after satisfaction of the notice requirements set forth in paragraph (2) above; and
 - (c) Without recommendation for passage on any reading of the bill.
- (6) Upon the request of a chair of a standing committee, the Speaker may authorize the chair and the members of the standing committee to conduct a community-based public hearing whenever appropriate and practicable, subject to notice as required in paragraph (2) above. "Community-based public hearing" means a hearing conducted by a standing committee outside the State Capitol building at a location within the community for the purpose of accommodating the public to be heard on the matter under consideration by the standing committee.
- (7) No standing committee shall sit during the time when the House is actually in session except with the permission of the Speaker.

11.6. Committee Decision-making.

- (1) A quorum of the committee, which shall be a majority of the committee membership, shall be present for decision-making.
- (2) Committee decision-making shall be by a majority of the members present. Reporting a measure out of the committee shall require a favorable vote of not less than a majority of the members present at a meeting duly constituted with a quorum. Any member voting "with reservations" shall be deemed to be in favor of the recommendation.
- (3) The vice-chair of the committee, or the designee of the chair in the absence of the vice-chair, shall be the recorder of the record of the quorum and the votes.

In the case of a joint hearing, the vice-chair of the lead committee, or the designee of the lead committee chair in the absence of the vice-chair, shall be the recorder of the record of the quorum and the votes of all the committees party to the public hearing, unless otherwise agreed to by the respective chairs. A member's vote on a measure shall be the same for all committees that the member may sit on.

- (4) After hearing a measure, the chair shall recommend with sufficient explanation one of the following recommendations for the measure: (a) passed with or without amendment, (b) held, or (c) deferred. A recommendation to pass a measure may include language that defects the measure to ensure further deliberation upon the measure. A measure that is held is a decision to conclude consideration of a measure, subject to reconsideration. A measure that is deferred is a decision to postpone consideration of a measure to a time certain or indefinitely. A vote shall be taken with respect to a recommendation to pass a measure and favorable action by the committee shall be conveyed in a committee report.
- (5) If a committee reports out a bill or resolution with proposed amendments that may affect the referral of that bill or resolution, the committee chair shall, within 24 hours, notify the Speaker.

11.7. Standing Committee Reports.

- (1) Standing committees shall report from time to time upon matters referred to them with such copies as may be designated by the Speaker. Such reports shall be printed by the House and be furnished to each member.
- (2) The reports shall state findings of facts and conclusions based thereon, together with a distinct recommendation as to the disposition of the matter.
- (3) A report recommending a measure for passage shall clearly state the legislative intent and purpose of the measure. The chair shall attest to the action of the committee by signing the report on behalf of the committee. A record of the quorum present at the meeting and a record of the votes of the members of the committee on the bill or resolution as attested to by the recorder shall be attached to the report as a part thereof.
- (4) A report upon a measure shall state clearly the proposed amendments, if any. If a proposed bill, for one or more bills referred to the committee, shall be reported, such proposed bill shall be consistent with the subject of the bill or bills referred to the committee. The report shall describe the disposition of the bill or bills referred.
- (5) All matters referred to and not reported upon by the standing committees shall be returned to the Chief Clerk at the close of the regular session in the even-numbered year.

Rule 12. Standing Committees: Description

Standing committees shall be created by resolution at the opening of the session, or as soon thereafter as possible, to serve during the legislative session. The standing committees therein shall be as follows:

- (1) Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems, whose scope shall be those programs relating to the Department of Agriculture, agriculture, aquaculture, crop and livestock production, food production and distribution, agricultural parks, animal welfare, invasive species, and other pertinent matters referred to it by the House.
- (2) Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, whose scope shall be those programs relating to consumer protection, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, the regulation of trade, business, professions, occupations, and utilities, the Residential Landlord-Tenant Code, condominiums, housing cooperatives, planned communities, insurance, financial institutions, and other pertinent matters referred to it by the House.
- (3) Committee on Culture & Arts, whose scope shall be those programs related to Hawaii's multi-cultural heritage and the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts; and other pertinent matters referred to it by the House.
- (4) Committee on Economic Development & Technology, whose scope shall be those programs relating to private sector job creation, public-private business or investment partnerships or ventures, new industry development, planning for economic development and diversification, industrial and product promotion and financial and technical assistance to business for interstate and intrastate commerce, broadband and cable communications and services, intergovernmental relations, and technology and cybersecurity, and other pertinent matters referred to it by the House.
- (5) Committee on Education, whose scope shall be those programs relating to early childhood education, primary and secondary schools, continuing education, libraries, and other pertinent matters referred to it by the House.
- (6) Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, whose scope shall be those programs relating to energy resources, electric and gas utilities, the development of new energy resources, energy efficiency, and electrification of transportation; programs relating to climate change mitigation, including decarbonization, emissions reduction, and carbon sequestration; programs relating to environmental health, including air pollution, drinking water, hazardous waste, solid waste, recycling, and wastewater management; programs relating to natural resources protection and conservation; programs relating to environmental impact assessment and chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and other pertinent matters referred to it by the House.
- (7) Committee on Finance, whose scope shall be those programs relating to overall state financing policies, including taxation and other revenues, cash and debt management, statewide implementation of planning, programming, budgeting, and evaluation, and procurement and the Procurement Code, and other pertinent matters referred to it by the House.
- (8) Committee on Health, whose scope shall be those programs relating to general health, maternal and child care, dental health, medical and hospital services, mental health, hospitals, community health care facilities, and communicable diseases; and other pertinent matters referred to it by the House.
- (9) Committee on Higher Education, whose scope shall be those programs relating to the University of Hawaii, the community colleges, and other institutions of post-secondary education, intercollegiate athletics, and the Waikiki Aquarium; and other pertinent matters referred to it by the House.
- (10) Committee on Housing, whose scope shall be those programs relating to housing development financing, assistance for homebuyers and renters, affordable and rental housing, public housing, and other pertinent matters referred to it by the House.
- (11) Committee on Human Services & Homelessness, whose scope shall be those programs relating to financial assistance, medical assistance, vocational rehabilitation, social welfare services, the general well-being of the State's elderly and youth, and juvenile correctional services, and homeless services and sheltering, and other pertinent matters referred to it by the House.
- (12) Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, whose scope shall be those programs relating to the courts, crime prevention and control, penal code, criminal enforcement, police and law enforcement, prosecution, sentencing, disposition, and punishment, probation, parole, furlough, and other alternatives to incarceration, indigent legal representation and defense matters, civil law, firearms, weapons, judicial and legal questions, constitutional matters, the Attorney General, the Judiciary, individual rights, civil rights and liberties, the Civil Rights Commission, the Ethics Code, campaign spending, and elections; and persons of Hawaiian ancestry, including programs administered by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; and other pertinent matters referred to it by the House.
- (13) Committee on Labor, whose scope shall be those programs relating to employment, government operations and efficiency, employee pay and benefits, employee recruitment, classification and training, career development, employee performance, employment conditions, standards of conduct for employers and employees, collective bargaining in public employment, the civil service system, workers' compensation, unemployment compensation, temporary disability insurance, prepaid health care, employment opportunities, and labor-management relations in the private sector; and other pertinent matters referred to it by the House.
- (14) Committee on Legislative Management, whose scope shall be those programs relating to the administrative operations and legislative services of the House, including the Legislative Reference Bureau, Legislative Auditor, Office of the Ombudsman, Public Access Room, the Hawaii State General Plan, and other pertinent matters referred to it by the House.
- (15) Committee on Public Safety, whose scope shall be those programs relating to adult corrections, rehabilitation, and correctional facilities and industries; military facilities, activities, and veterans' affairs; and emergency management, including prevention, preparation, response, and recovery from civilian emergencies and disasters, and the safety, welfare, and defense of the State and its people; and other pertinent matters referred to it by the House.
- (16) Committee on Tourism, whose scope shall be those programs relating to tourism, including the Hawaii Convention Center, Hawaii Visitors and Convention Bureau, and Hawaii Tourism Authority, and other pertinent matters referred to it by the House.
- (17) Committee on Transportation, whose scope shall be those programs relating to the development and maintenance of air, water, and ground transportation, infrastructure, and facilities, and other pertinent matters referred to it by the House.
- (18) Committee on Water & Land, whose scope shall be those programs relating to climate adaptation to the actual or expected impacts of

climate change; land and water resource administration and use, coastal lands, the Land Use Commission, county land use planning and zoning, the Hawaii Community Development Authority, infrastructure development, outdoor recreation, fresh water and brackish waters, small boat harbors and their infrastructure, State parks, historic sites development and protection, ocean activities and outdoor marine matters, the Coastal Zone Management Act; and other pertinent matters referred to it by the House.

Rule 13. Standing Committees: General Responsibility; Special Responsibility

13.1. *Standing Committees: General Responsibility.* It shall be the duty of each standing committee to:

- (1) Consider all bills, petitions, and resolutions as may properly come before it;
- (2) Review those portions of the State's program and financial plan and variance reports as may relate to programs over which the committee has primary responsibility. Through informational briefings, it shall gather information and examine those portions of the executive budget and the General and Supplemental Appropriations Bills relating to such programs and recommend to the Committee on Finance the programs and amounts to be spent thereon (The executive budget and the General and Supplemental Appropriations Bills are hereinafter collectively referred to as the "State budget."). The recommended programs and amounts, taken as a whole, shall be consistent with and within the expenditure amounts allocated by the Committee on Finance;
- (3) Determine the objectives of any bill referred to it and make appropriate recommendations, including, if proper, expenditure recommendations on other bills referred to it by the House. Such expenditure recommendations shall be consistent with the allocations established by the Committee on Finance. On bills that relate to programs and matters over which a standing committee to which they are referred has no primary responsibility, the standing committee shall propose no substantive change to the bill unless prior concurrence of the chair of the committee which has the primary responsibility is first obtained. If the chair of the standing committee, which has primary responsibility over programs and matters of a bill, does not concur with the substantive change to the bill affecting such programs and matters sought to be proposed by a standing committee, any of the chairs of the standing committees involved may submit the matter to the Speaker for resolution. The Speaker shall meet with the chairs of the standing committees involved, hear their differences, and settle their differences with a decision, which shall be the final disposition of the matter; and
- (4) Review how programs over which it has primary responsibility have been carried out in compliance with legislative direction and whether studies, analysis, and audit should be conducted on all or part of the program in order to define issues and recommend improvements. Each standing committee shall also recommend amendments to existing appropriation acts and may further recommend revenue measures and improvements to the State's planning, programming, budgeting, and evaluation system to the Committee on Finance.

13.2. *Committee on Finance: Special Responsibility.* The Committee on Finance shall:

- (1) Have final responsibility over all programs and matters relating to the State's financing policies, including taxation and other revenues, level of expenditures, cash and debt management, and to the statewide implementation of planning, programming, budgeting, and evaluation. Subject to the provisions of these Rules, it shall consider the reports of the fiscal officers of the State, all bills, petitions, and resolutions, those portions of the state budget, and all other items pertaining to such programs and matters. It shall also consider such other pertinent items as may be referred to it by the House;
- (2) Establish, within the revenue raising ability of the State, the general level of total governmental expenditures for each fiscal year of a biennial period and allocate to each standing committee a proportionate part of such expenditures. Each standing committee shall be responsible for budget review of the programs within its jurisdiction and for making program expenditure recommendations to the Committee on Finance. Upon receipt of the recommendations of the other standing committees, the Committee on Finance shall review the same to determine if, when taken as a whole, the programs and amounts to be expended thereon are consistent with and within the expenditure amounts it has allocated to the respective standing committees. In making allocations to and in reviewing recommendations, the Committee on Finance shall invite the participation of the chair of the standing committee having primary responsibility over the program. After review of all standing committee recommendations, the Committee on Finance shall be responsible for preparing the General and Supplemental Appropriations Bills for consideration by the House; and
- (3) In all other appropriation bills, inform the standing committee primarily responsible for the program or matter under consideration, of the amount and type of finances available. Upon receiving recommendations for the expenditures from the appropriate standing committee, the Committee on Finance shall review such recommendations to determine if, when taken as a whole, the recommendations are consistent with and within the expenditure amounts allocated. In reviewing recommendations of the standing committees, the Committee on Finance shall invite the participation of the standing committee chair concerned.

13.3. *Committee on Legislative Management: Special Responsibility.* The Committee on Legislative Management shall:

- (1) Make recommendations to the Speaker on the procedures and manner in which the administrative operations of the House should be conducted;
- (2) Make recommendations to the Committee on Finance on the expenses to be included in the appropriation bills providing for the expenses of the Legislature and procedures to ensure that the expenses of the House are in accordance with the appropriation acts providing therefore; and
- (3) Make recommendations to the Speaker on programs relating to the establishment and operations of the House staff.

Rule 14. Special Committee

- 14.1.** The Speaker may appoint special committees for special or temporary purposes to consider and report on such special or temporary matters referred to it.
- 14.2.** Special committees shall consist of not less than three members each, unless otherwise ordered by the House, to serve until discharged or until finally reporting on such matters referred to them.

- 14.3. Meetings of special committees shall be conducted in the same manner as provided for standing committees.
- 14.4. Special committees shall report upon matters referred to them within the time prescribed under the appointment of the special committees, unless further time is given by vote of the House.

Rule 15. Committee of the Whole

- 15.1. Whenever any matter shall be referred to the entire membership of the House by adoption of a motion to that effect, the House may at any time thereafter resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to be chaired by the Speaker.
- 15.2. The Chief Clerk of the House shall act as Clerk of the Committee of the Whole, without extra compensation, and shall make a careful record of the proceedings, which shall be filed as one of the records of the House.
- 15.3. The committee may, on motion, rise and ask leave to sit at any future time. The rules of procedure in the House shall be observed, except as follows:
 - (1) Any member may speak more than once on the same subject, provided that the member shall not speak a second time or further until others desiring to speak have had an opportunity; and
 - (2) The motion for the "previous question" shall not be allowed.

Rule 16. Conference Committee

- 16.1. Conference committees shall consist of not less than three members each unless otherwise ordered by the House to be appointed for the purpose of resolving differences between the House and the Senate on any matters where the joint agreement of the House and the Senate is required and shall serve until discharged or until finally reporting on the matter referred to it.
 - 16.2. The composition of the conference committee shall be as follows:
 - (1) The chair of the standing committee having primary responsibility of the subject matter to be resolved shall be the chair of the conference committee on the part of the House. In the absence of the chair of the conference committee, a designee of the chair shall serve as chair; and
 - (2) The membership of a conference committee shall be on a proportional basis. In appointing the minority party members, the Speaker shall consult with the minority leadership of the House.

The Speaker shall appoint the members of a conference committee as the Speaker and the chair of such standing committee having primary responsibility of the subject matter shall so mutually agree.
 - 16.3. The chair of the Committee on Finance shall be designated the chair of the conference committee on the General and Supplemental Appropriations Bills. The chair shall invite the participation of the chair of the standing committee having primary responsibility over the program or matter, as described in Part III of these Rules, to which the appropriation relates. After review, the chair of the conference committee shall be responsible for preparing the budgets for consideration by the House.
 - 16.4. The meetings of the conference committee shall be conducted as agreed upon by the members of the conference committee, subject to the provisions of Rule 16.5. It is the position of the House that conference committee meetings and decision-making sessions shall be public. Public notice of the meetings shall be given. Public notice may be posted or announced on the House floor during the session day. Subsequent meetings may be announced during conference committee meetings.
 - 16.5. The authority of a conference committee shall be limited solely to resolving differences between the House and the Senate versions of a bill or resolution.
- Accordingly, a conference committee shall not amend a bill or resolution by inserting into the bill or resolution any unrelated or new subject; provided that the restrictions in this Rule shall not apply to the General and Supplemental Appropriations Bills; provided further that any increases to the salaries, pensions, or retirement benefits for any elected or appointed officer of the State or County shall be considered by separate bill other than the aforesaid Appropriations Bills or any bill ratifying collective bargaining agreements.

Rule 17. Interim Committee

- 17.1. Interim committees may be established between regular sessions to accomplish specified objectives and work. The appointment of interim committees shall be completed by the Speaker as soon as practicable.
- 17.2. The composition of interim committees shall be as follows:
 - (1) The chair of the interim committee shall be the chair of the standing committee having primary responsibility, as defined by these Rules, over the program or matter to be considered by the interim committee; and
 - (2) The membership of the interim committee shall be on a proportional basis. In appointing the minority party members to the interim committee, the Speaker shall consult with the minority leadership of the House. The Speaker shall appoint the members of an interim committee as the Speaker and the chair of the interim committee shall so mutually agree.
- 17.3. Interim committees may submit interim committee reports from time to time on matters referred to them. The reports shall state findings of facts and conclusions based thereon, together with such recommendations as to the disposal of the matter.

Rule 18. Committee on the Journal

- 18.1. A Committee on the Journal shall be appointed to: prepare, compile, and bind the House Journal; enter into contracts for printing and any other acts necessary to accomplish the purpose of printing the Journal; and distribute the Journal to the members of the House at the next regular

session.

- 18.2. The Committee on the Journal shall consist of the Speaker, Vice Speaker, Majority Leader, Majority Floor Leader, Minority Leader, Minority Floor Leader, and the chair of the Committee on Legislative Management, whose duty it shall be to prepare, compile, and bind the House Journal, and who shall be authorized to make contracts with any printer, publisher, or bookbinder for the printing and binding of said Journal. The Chief Clerk of the House shall act as Clerk of the Committee on the Journal. The committee shall report from time to time to the House.
- 18.3. The Committee on the Journal may correct certain errors in all proper cases, and shall correct any mere clerical errors in the compilation of the Journal, such as errors in orthography or the use of one word for another as "affect" for "effect," "previous" for "previously," and the like. No corrections other than such as are authorized by this Rule shall be made at any time by the Clerk or the Clerk's assistants, unless upon order of the committee.

Rule 19. Advisory Committee on Rules and Procedure

The Speaker shall, prior to the convening of a legislative session in an odd- numbered year, establish an Advisory Committee on Rules and Procedure. The committee shall include at least one member from the minority party. The Advisory Committee on Rules and Procedure shall review these Rules and propose to the House such amendments as the committee deems appropriate.

Rule 20. Open Committee Meetings

Every meeting of a committee of the House or of a committee composed of a member or members from the House and the Senate held for the purpose of making decisions on matters referred to the committee shall be open to the public and appropriately noticed in accordance with this Part; provided that certain kinds of meetings, including but not limited to executive sessions, organizational meetings, partisan caucuses, advisory committees, and meetings the subject of which involves the invasion of a person's right to privacy if made public, need not be open to the public.

PART IV. SESSIONS; ATTENDANCE

Rule 21. Meetings

- 21.1. After the opening day of the Legislature, the House shall meet for the transaction of public business every day except Saturday, Sunday, any legal holiday, and any day in recess, and such other day as the House shall designate.
- 21.2. The House shall determine from time to time the normal hour of its meetings.
- 21.3. Each regular session shall be recessed for not less than five days at some period between the twentieth and fortieth days of the regular session. The House shall, by concurrent resolution, determine the dates of the mandatory recess. Any session may be recessed when a majority of the members of each house adopts a concurrent resolution for that purpose. When directed by a resolution adopted by the House, the Speaker shall consult with the President of the Senate to agree upon the time of a recess or recesses.

Rule 22. Quorum

- 22.1. A majority of the members to which the House is entitled constitutes a quorum, of which a majority vote shall suffice for the conduct of ordinary business unless otherwise provided in these Rules, but the final passage of a bill shall require the vote of a majority of all members to which the House is entitled.
- 22.2. A majority of less than a quorum may adjourn from day to day and compel the attendance of absent members.
- 22.3. If a quorum is not present at the designated time of meeting, the Speaker may declare the House adjourned.
- 22.4. The Speaker shall count the number of members present to determine whether there is a quorum.

Rule 23. Attendance

No member shall be absent from service to the House, unless the member is sick and is unable to attend or is excused by the Speaker.

Rule 24. Adjournments

- 24.1. Meetings of the House may be adjourned at any time by vote. Every adjournment shall be until the normal hour of meeting on the next business day, unless the motion for adjournment specifies otherwise.
- 24.2. A motion to adjourn is always in order and shall be decided without debate. However, one motion to adjourn shall not follow another without intervening business.
- 24.3. A motion to adjourn sine die or to adjourn to a specified time may be debated. No member shall speak more than once on such a motion.

Rule 25. Extension of Session

- 25.1. Two-thirds of the members to which the House is entitled, two-thirds of the Senate concurring, may petition the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate to extend any session of the Legislature. The petition shall read:

"To the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate:

Your petitioners, members of the House of Representatives and of the Senate of the ____ Legislature of the State of Hawaii, respectfully request an extension of ____ days beyond the ____ day of the Regular Session of ____ of the ____ Legislature of the State of Hawaii."

- 25.2. The petition shall be in writing, above the signatures of the members.
- 25.3. When the Speaker of the House receives such a petition, and it is properly signed by two-thirds of the members to which each house is entitled, the Speaker and the President of the Senate shall jointly issue a proclamation extending the session for the number of days sought in the petition.

Rule 26. Special Sessions

- 26.1. Two-thirds of the members to which the House is entitled, two-thirds of the Senate concurring, may petition the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate to call a special session of the Legislature. The petition shall read:

"To the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate:

Your petitioners, members of the House of Representatives and of the Senate of the ____ Legislature of the State of Hawaii, respectfully request the convening of a special session of ____, the ____ Legislature of the State of Hawaii."

- 26.2. The petition shall be in writing, above the signatures of the members.
- 26.3. When the Speaker of the House receives such a petition, and it is properly signed by two-thirds of the members to which each house is entitled, the Speaker and the President of the Senate shall jointly issue a proclamation convening the Legislature in special session at the time and place sought in the petition.

PART V. ORDER; DECORUM

Rule 27. Questions of Order

Any member may raise a question of order at any stage in the proceedings of the House, except during a roll call vote. The Speaker shall decide questions of order without debate, subject to an appeal of the House. Laying an appeal on the table shall sustain the Speaker's ruling.

Rule 28. Decorum: Punishment for Violations

- 28.1. No person shall sit at the desk of the Speaker or Chief Clerk, except by permission of the Speaker.
- 28.2. No person shall walk out of the House Chamber or across the floor of the House while the Speaker is addressing the House. No person shall maintain a private discourse while the Speaker is addressing the House or a member is speaking. No person shall walk between the Speaker and a member who is speaking.
- 28.3. A question concerning conduct of the Speaker or members should not be presented by way of debate on other matters. Allusions or critical references to the Speaker or members are not in good order. Such attacks are not conducive to the good order of the House.
- 28.4. The Speaker shall order any member who conducts himself or herself in a disorderly manner during any session of the House to stay in his or her seat and be in order. The Speaker shall order the Sergeant-at-Arms to remove any member who persists in disorderly conduct from the House for the remainder of the day's session, unless the member who has been disorderly pledges to the House that he or she will maintain good behavior.
- 28.5. Any member who wishes to speak shall rise from his or her seat and address the Speaker, saying, "Mr. Speaker" or "Madam Speaker". When recognized, the member shall face the Speaker and address the question under debate. All debate shall be addressed to the Speaker and not to the membership or an individual member.
- 28.6. A member referring to another member should avoid using the member's name or political party, rather identifying the member by district, seat, as the member who last spoke, or other similar manner.
- 28.7. It is not the person but the measure that is the subject of debate, and it is not allowable to arraign the motives of a member, but the nature or consequences of a measure may be condemned in strong terms.
- 28.8. The Speaker shall call to order any member who violates these Rules while in session, and the member shall then immediately sit down. The Speaker shall then decide the question of order without debate, subject to an appeal to the House. The Speaker may call for the sense of the House on any question of order.
- 28.9. A member who is called to order while speaking shall retain the floor while the question of order is decided. However, the member may not proceed with the matter under discussion until recognized by the Speaker to continue.
- 28.10. Any member may demand that the Chief Clerk take down the words or actions objected to when a member is called to order for words spoken or actions taken during debate, and may ask that they be read for the information of the House.
- 28.11. The House may censure its members for disorderly conduct or neglect of duty. The House may also suspend or expel a member by a two-thirds vote of the total membership of the House.
- 28.12. The House may establish an investigating committee pursuant to chapter 21, Legislative Hearings and Procedure, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for the purposes therein mentioned.
- 28.13. Cell phones, pagers, and similar devices shall be kept in silent mode while on the floor of the House Chamber.

Rule 29. Disclosures and Punishment of Members

- 29.1. Each member shall file with the Ethics Commission of the State of Hawaii a financial disclosure, and any applicable amendments, as prescribed by law.

- 29.2. If a legislative matter that affects a member's interests arises before the member has filed a financial disclosure, or any amendments thereto, to the Ethics Commission, the member shall disclose his or her interest to the House pursuant to Rule 62 before voting.
- 29.3. In accordance with Rule 62, the Speaker shall appoint a Select Committee on Standards of Conduct to receive complaints and investigate any member for misconduct, disorderly conduct, neglect of duty, violation of chapter 84, Hawaii Revised Statutes, or violation of these Rules. The House may punish any member found guilty by such a committee by censure, suspension, or expulsion. Censure shall require the approval of a majority of the members to which the House is entitled. Suspension or expulsion shall require the approval of two-thirds of the members to which the House is entitled.

PART VI. ORDER OF BUSINESS

Rule 30. Order of Business: General; Order of the Day

30.1. The daily order of business shall be:

- (1) Roll call;
- (2) Reading and approval of the Journal unless the House by motion dispenses with such reading;
- (3) Messages from the Governor;
- (4) Reports and communications from the heads of agencies; and
- (5) Bills, resolutions, and other matters received from the Senate to be placed on the calendar.

30.2. At the option of the Speaker, prior to the convening of any session, there shall be an invocation. Any invocation shall be limited to 90 seconds, and should not be used to proselytize, advance, inhibit, or disparage any religion or point of view. Attendance at and participation in the invocation shall be voluntary for all persons. Additional guidelines may be issued via memorandum by leadership of the House.

30.3. The order of matters to be considered in the Order of the Day shall be:

- (1) Unfinished business upon which the House was engaged at the time of its last adjournment;
- (2) Reports of committees;
- (3) Petitions, memorials, and communications;
- (4) Second and third readings;
- (5) Introduction of bills and resolutions;
- (6) Any miscellaneous business on the Speaker's table; and
- (7) Announcements.

Rule 31. Order of Business: Special

The House may, by previous motion, direct that any matter be made a special order of business. Special orders shall take precedence over all business after the fourth order in the order of business. The House may also specify that special orders be taken up at a later specified point in the order of business.

Rule 32. Order of Business: Unfinished Business; Committee Reports and Messages

- 32.1. Any business that the House did not complete before its last adjournment shall have precedence in the Order of the Day. No motion or other business shall be received without special leave of the House until the unfinished business is disposed of.
- 32.2. Reports from conference committees and from the Committee on Legislative Management shall be in order at all times. Upon motion, messages or reports from the Governor, Judiciary, or from the Senate may be received at any time, provided that without unanimous consent such messages or reports shall not be in order for discussion when received but shall be placed on the calendar as "Unfinished Business".

Rule 33. Order of Business: Questions of Priority

All questions relating to the priority of business shall be decided without debate.

PART VII. BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Rule 34. Form: Bills, Resolutions, and Amendments

- 34.1. All bills and resolutions to be introduced shall be submitted in the form and in the number of copies designated by the Chief Clerk. Short form bills may also be introduced. All bills and resolutions shall be signed by the introducer in black ink.
- 34.2. Every bill introduced or reported out of any committee, which amends an existing section or subsection of the Hawaii Revised Statutes or Session Laws of Hawaii, shall set forth the section or subsection in full, and the matter to be deleted shall be enclosed in brackets and stricken, and any new matter added to the section or subsection shall be underscored. However, a bill need not conform to this rule if it is: (1) a Supplemental Appropriations Bill; or (2) a bill amending the intent and effect of which can be clearly identified and understood without repeating the entire section or subsection, in which case only the paragraphs, subparagraphs, clauses, or items to be amended need be set forth as the Speaker may allow. The Speaker may allow additional exceptions to this rule.

- 34.3. No floor amendment to a bill shall be voted upon unless a copy of such amendment shall have been presented to the Chief Clerk, who shall prepare and distribute copies of the amendment to each member of the House present.
- 34.4. The House shall, in concurrence with the Senate, provide for the date by which all bills to be considered in a regular session shall be introduced. This date shall precede the commencement of the mandatory recess provided for by Article III, Section 10 of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii.

Rule 35. Bills: First Reading

The first reading of a bill shall be by its title only.

Rule 36. Bills: Second Reading

On second reading, a bill may be read by title only, or, on motion, read throughout. It shall then be subject to a motion for referral to a committee. If it is referred to the Committee of the Whole instead of a special or standing committee, the chair of the Committee of the Whole shall set a day for its consideration. When a bill is reported by a standing committee, special committee, or the Committee of the Whole, and has passed second reading, it shall take its place in the order of business for future consideration.

Rule 37. Bills: Third or Final Reading

- 37.1. No bill shall pass third or final reading in the House unless printed copies of the bill in the form to be passed have been made available to the members of the House for at least 48 hours. "Form to be passed" means the form in which a bill is to be either: (i) passed on third reading in the House; (ii) concurred to by the House after amendments have been made by the Senate; or (iii) passed by the House after a conference committee has agreed upon it.
- 37.2. A bill on its third or final reading may be read by its title only, and the Speaker shall then ask the House, "Shall this bill pass its third reading?" or "Shall this bill pass its final reading?" as the case may be. Such bill may be amended on its third reading. For the final passage of any bill, the Ayes and Noes shall be called or a vote shall be taken pursuant to Rule 53.3 and such passage shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of all members to which the House is entitled. The vote upon third reading shall be upon a motion that the bill pass third reading, rather than upon adoption of a committee report, so that amendments to the bill may be offered at third reading and voted upon.
- 37.3. The House shall not concur with substantive amendments made by the Senate to a House bill until the chair of the standing committee having primary responsibility for the subject matter contained in the bill has granted prior concurrence to such amendments as provided for under Rule 13.1.

Rule 38. Bills: Recall from Committee

- 38.1. Any bill that has been referred to a committee may be recalled from that committee 20 days after referral, if one-third of the members to which the House is entitled vote in favor of the recall.
- 38.2. No parliamentary rule or procedure may supersede the constitutional right of recall of a bill from committee.

Rule 39. Bills: Certification

- 39.1. When the House passes a bill, the Speaker and the Chief Clerk shall certify it and note the day of its passage at the bottom of the last page of the bill.
- 39.2. When a bill introduced in the House passes third reading in the House, the Speaker and the Chief Clerk shall immediately send it to the Senate. Likewise, they shall send to the Senate any bill that the House receives from the Senate, amends, and passes on third reading in the House. Likewise, they shall send to the Senate any bill introduced in the Senate in the first regular session of a Legislature that passes third reading in the House in the second regular session of the same Legislature.

Rule 40. Bills and Resolutions: Order of Consideration

- 40.1. The Chief Clerk shall send bills that have passed first reading to be printed immediately. When they have been printed and circulated to the members of the House, the Speaker shall refer them to the various committees. When the committees have considered them and reported on them, the committees shall return them to the Chief Clerk, and the Chief Clerk shall place them in the second reading file. The House shall consider them in the order in which they appear in the second reading file.
- 40.2. The Chief Clerk shall arrange bills that have passed second reading in the order of their passage on second reading, regardless of the date of their referral to committee or the date of the committee report on them. The Chief Clerk shall place them in the third reading file in the order in which they passed second reading, and the House shall consider them on third reading in that same order. However, if the third reading of a bill is set for some particular date, that bill shall be removed from the third reading file.
- 40.3. The Chief Clerk shall send all resolutions, except congratulatory resolutions, to be printed. When they have been printed and circulated among the members of the House, they shall be placed on the calendar for adoption, unless the House orders otherwise.
- 40.4. Resolutions shall either be considered at a stated date or be referred to a committee.

Rule 41. Bills and Other Matters: Special Order of Consideration

- 41.1. The Chief Clerk shall place all bills and other matters that are to be considered on particular dates in a special file, in the order of dates assigned for their consideration, and the House shall consider them in that order.
- 41.2. If the House adjourns before disposing of matters on special order, those matters shall carry over to the next day's business. The House shall then consider them under "Unfinished Business" in the Order of the Day, unless the House orders otherwise.

Rule 42. Bills: Property of the House

All bills introduced in the House shall be the property of the House.

Rule 43. Bills: Carryover Bills

- 43.1. Any bill pending at the final adjournment of a regular session in an odd-numbered year shall carry over with the same status to the next regular session; provided that if such bill shall have passed third reading in the House in an odd-numbered session, it shall again be placed in the third reading file and pass at least one reading in the House in the next regular session upon its return to the House from the Senate.
- 43.2. Bills that carry over from a regular session in an odd-numbered year to the next regular session shall retain the numbers assigned to them. The Chief Clerk shall keep a record of the status of all bills in possession of the House at the end of the session in odd-numbered years and shall publish the record of the status of all such bills prior to the convening of the next regular session.

Rule 44. Bills: Pre-Filing

The Chief Clerk shall accept bills to be pre-filed within seven calendar days before the commencement of each regular session.

Rule 45. Bills: Corrections of Errors

When a bill has passed the House and the Senate and an error in the bill is discovered prior to its having received approval of the Governor, the bill may be returned by concurrent resolution in the house last considering the bill for proper correction.

PART VIII. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**Rule 46. Petitions and Communications: Presentation and Disposition**

- 46.1. Any person may petition the House. Petitions shall be in writing, and the petitioners shall sign them.
- 46.2. The Speaker shall order all petitions and communications filed or referred to a committee without any motion or vote, unless there is objection from the members. If there is objection, the Speaker shall dispose of the matter as the House directs.
- 46.3. Upon the request of a member, the Speaker may authorize the issuance of congratulatory certificates in the name of the House.

PART IX. MOTIONS; DEBATE**Rule 47. Motions: Generally**

- 47.1. No motion shall be received and considered by the House until the same shall have been seconded.
- 47.2. After a motion is stated and determined to be in order by the Speaker, it shall be disposed of by vote of the House. However, the motion may be withdrawn by the movant at any time before a decision or amendment.
- 47.3. Whenever any question whatsoever shall be under discussion, the only permanent motions shall be:
First: To lay on the table;
Second: To postpone to a certain time;
Third: To commit;
Fourth: To amend; and
Fifth: To postpone indefinitely;

which motions shall have precedence in the order named.
- 47.4. The first two motions shall be decided without debate and shall be put as soon as made.
- 47.5. Whenever any of the first four motions mentioned above shall be decided in the negative, it shall not be revived the same day in regard to the main question under discussion. If a motion to amend in a specific manner is defeated, it shall not be revived on the same day.

Rule 48. Indefinite Postponement

When a question is postponed indefinitely, the same shall not be acted upon again during the regular or special session in which it was introduced without the consent of two-thirds of the members to which the House is entitled.

Rule 49. Matters Tabled

When a question has been laid on the table, it shall not thereafter be taken from and be considered or restored to a place upon the calendar of the House without the consent of the majority upon a motion made on the day the question was tabled or on the next day that the House is in session; thereafter, no motion to take any question from the table shall be made without the consent, in writing, of the majority. A motion to take any question from the table, if decided in the negative, may not again be made on the same day.

Rule 50. Motions: Previous Question

The purpose of the motion for the previous question is to end debate. The motion shall always be in order, except as otherwise provided herein. It shall require a majority vote of the members present in the House at the time the motion is made. Whenever the motion is carried, the movant of the main subject under discussion shall be permitted to close the debate, after which the main question, subject to the order of priority, shall be put; provided that the movant may delegate the right to close to another member.

Rule 51. Motions: Reconsideration

- 51.1. When a motion has been made once and carried in the affirmative or negative, it shall not be in order for any member who voted in the minority to move for reconsideration, but any member who voted with the majority may move to reconsider it on the same or succeeding day of the session. A motion to reconsider shall take precedence over all other questions except a motion to adjourn.
- 51.2. The House shall not reconsider a motion to reconsider.
- 51.3. If the House wishes to reconsider a measure or other matter which it already has passed or adopted and sent to the Senate, the motion to reconsider shall be accompanied by a motion to request the Senate to return the measure or other matter. The House shall act first on the motion for return of the measure or other matter, without debate. If this motion fails, it is an end of the matter, and the movant and seconder of the motion to reconsider shall withdraw their motion.

Rule 52. Debate: Limits

- 52.1. No member shall speak more than twice on the same question without leave of the House; provided, however, that the movant of the matter pending shall be permitted to speak in reply, but not until every member choosing to speak shall have spoken. No member shall speak longer than five minutes the first time and three minutes the second time on the same question; provided however, that any member may yield his or her speaking time to another member.
- 52.2. When a member yields the floor to another member, the yielding member's time shall continue to run, except when such yielding shall be to allow a specific question to be asked and when in response to the specific question asked.
- 52.3. Members may submit written remarks in lieu of speaking, subject to the approval of the Speaker, that conform to Rules 28.3, 28.7, 62.1, and other applicable rules herein.

PART X. VOTING**Rule 53. Voting: Methods**

- 53.1. There shall be five methods of ascertaining the decision of the House on any matter: first, by voice vote; second, by raising of hands; third, by standing; fourth, by call of the roll of members, each of whose votes shall be recorded by the Chief Clerk; and fifth, by unanimous consent.
- 53.2. When the House is ready to vote on any question, the Speaker shall rise, state the question, and ask all those who wish to vote yes on the question say "aye" in a clear, loud voice. The Speaker then shall ask all those who wish to vote no on the question say "no" likewise. The Speaker shall announce the decision of the House after the Chief Clerk has announced the result of the voting of the House, except that the Chief Clerk shall not announce the decision of the House after a voice vote.
- 53.3. With the unanimous consent of the House, the Speaker may direct the Chief Clerk to record an aye for each member of the House. If there is no objection, the Chief Clerk shall so record the vote. If there is objection, the Speaker shall ask for the names of the members voting no, and order the Chief Clerk to record no votes for them. A vote shall not be recorded for any member who is not present at the time the vote is taken.

Rule 54. Voting: Rights of Members; Restrictions

- 54.1. In case of a voice vote, if one-fifth of the members present doubt the result the Speaker announces, they may ask for a show of hands. The Speaker then shall state the question again and ask those who wish to vote yes on the question to raise their hands. The Chief Clerk then shall count the number voting yes and report the result to the Speaker. The Speaker then shall ask those who wish to vote no to raise their hands likewise. The Chief Clerk shall count the no votes and report the result to the Speaker. The Speaker then shall announce the result to the House.
- 54.2. In case of a show of hands, if one-fifth of the members present doubt the result the Speaker announces, they may ask for a standing vote. The Speaker then shall state the question again, and ask those who wish to vote yes to stand up and remain standing until the Chief Clerk counts their votes and reports the result to the Speaker. The Speaker then shall ask those who wish to vote no to stand likewise. The Chief Clerk shall report the result to the Speaker and the Speaker shall announce it to the House.
- 54.3. Any time one-fifth of the members present request it, the Chief Clerk shall call the roll of members of the House to determine their vote on a question. Each member who wishes to vote yes on the question shall say "aye" in a loud, clear voice when his or her name is called by the Chief Clerk. Each member who wishes to vote no on the question shall say "no" likewise.
- 54.4. No member shall refrain from voting unless excused pursuant to Rule 62.6.
- 54.5. When voting is by roll call, no member may explain his or her vote, unless the House permits it by unanimous consent.
- 54.6. No member may vote or change his or her vote after the Speaker has announced the result of voting.
- 54.7. Any member who refuses (including the "kanalua" response) three times to vote when ordered to do so will be considered to have voted aye, and the Chief Clerk shall record an aye vote for the member.

PART XI. MISCELLANEOUS**Rule 55. Subpoena; Oaths; Witness Fees**

- 55.1. The Speaker, and every investigating committee under chapter 21, Hawaii Revised Statutes, may issue subpoenas requiring the attendance of witnesses or production of evidence in any matter before the House or its committees pursuant to chapter 21, Hawaii Revised Statutes.
- 55.2. Any member of the House may administer oaths to witnesses in any matter pending in the House or in any committee of the House.

- 55.3. Any witness subpoenaed to appear before the House or any of its committees shall receive the same witness fees and mileage allowances that the Circuit Courts of the State pay.

Rule 56. Public Information

The Speaker may admit to the House Chamber stenographers and members of the news media who wish to take down debates or report the proceedings of the House. The Speaker shall assign such persons places for observation and other facilities that will not interfere with the operations of the House.

Rule 57. Disposition of Records at Adjournment

Within ten days after the House adjourns sine die in even-numbered years, its committees shall deliver to the Chief Clerk all bills, resolutions, petitions, and any other papers referred to the committees, plus any evidence taken by the committees. If a committee fails to comply with this rule, the Chief Clerk shall report its failure to the Speaker.

Rule 58. House Administrative and Financial Manual

- 58.1. The House shall adopt an administrative and financial manual.
- 58.2. After adoption, any revision to the manual shall be presented to the House unless otherwise provided in the manual.

PART XII. AMENDMENT, SUSPENSION, AND INTERPRETATION OF RULES

Rule 59. Rules: Amendment

These Rules shall not be altered unless the members of the House have received the 24 hour notice of the proposed change. The 24 hour period shall commence with the placement of a printed copy of the proposed amendment upon the desk of each member. Changes in these Rules shall be taken up as a special order. Any change in these Rules shall require the approval of a majority of the members to which the House is entitled.

Rule 60. Rules: Suspension

These Rules may be suspended by the approval of a majority of the members to which the House is entitled.

Rule 61. Parliamentary Practice

Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure, 2020 Edition, is hereby designated as the adopted parliamentary authority of the House.

PART XIII. CODE OF LEGISLATIVE CONDUCT

Rule 62. Standards of Conduct

- 62.1. Members should conduct themselves in a respectful manner befitting the office with which they as elected officials have been entrusted, respecting and complying with the law and acting at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity of the House.
- 62.2. Members should not lend the prestige of public office to advance the private interests of themselves or others; nor should members convey or permit others to convey the impression that they are in a special position to unduly influence public business pending before them.
- 62.3. Members should treat their fellow House members, staff, and the general public with respect, courtesy, fairness, equity, dignity, and inclusion, regardless of political or religious beliefs, age, race, ethnicity, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or physical disability.
- 62.4. The legislative duties of members, as prescribed by law and these Rules, should take precedence over all of their other business or professional activities. Members should freely and willingly accept certain restrictions on their business activities and professional conduct that might be considered burdensome by an ordinary private citizen, and should perform the duties of elected office impartially and diligently. To the greatest extent reasonably possible, members should:
- (1) Refrain from allowing family, social, business, or other relationships to unduly influence the member's legislative conduct or judgment;
 - (2) Refrain from showing bias or prejudice, including but not limited to bias or prejudice based on political or religious beliefs, age, race, ethnicity, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or physical disability, in the performance of their official duties;
 - (3) Exercise patience, tolerance, and courtesy to all those with whom they deal with in an official capacity, and require staff and others subject to their direction and control to maintain similar standards of conduct, fidelity, and diligence inherent in public service;
 - (4) Exercise the power of appointment impartially and on the basis of merit, refraining from making unnecessary appointments and approving compensation of appointees beyond the fair value of services rendered;
 - (5) Afford to every person who wishes to participate in the legislative process the opportunity to be heard according to established procedures;
 - (6) Consider at all times whether their conduct would create in reasonable minds the perception that their ability to carry out legislative responsibilities with integrity and independence is either questionable or impaired;
 - (7) Manage their personal interests and obligations so as to minimize the number of votes in which they are in, or may reasonably be perceived to be in, potential conflict;
 - (8) Refrain from using, or permitting the use of, the privileges and prestige of their public office to derive undue personal, professional, or

financial benefits for themselves, members of their family, or others with whom they maintain personal, business, or professional relationships;

- (9) Refrain from engaging in financial and business dealings that involve them in frequent transactions, or continuing business or professional relationships, with those persons likely to derive benefits from public financial matters either pending or already deliberated and voted upon by the House, to the extent that such conduct may reasonably be perceived as personal exploitation of their public office; and
 - (10) Refrain from membership in an organization that practices invidious discrimination and gives rise to perceptions that one's impartiality and ability to serve as a representative are unduly compromised.
- 62.5.** Each member, as an elected representative of their district, has the obligation or duty to vote on measures before the House, unless the member is recused or excused from voting. A member may be recused or excused from voting when the member has a conflict of interest. A "conflict of interest" arises when the standards herein are impacted and includes, but is not limited to, situations when the measure affects the member's direct personal, familial, or financial interest; provided that a conflict does not arise where the measure applies to a broader class.
- 62.6.** A member may make an oral or written request for a ruling by the chair in a committee hearing or by the Speaker on the floor of the House chamber as to whether a conflict exists. The request shall include with particularity the basis for the request. If it is determined that a conflict exists, the member shall be recused or excused from voting by the chair or Speaker, as applicable. When making a determination in cases where a portion of a measure may place a member in a conflict of interest, the chair or Speaker, as applicable, shall give due consideration to the context of the particular conflict as it relates to the overall purpose of the measure. A ruling of the chair or Speaker shall be subject to an appeal by any member.
- 62.7.** There shall be established a Select Committee on Standards of Conduct composed of three members of the majority party and three members of the minority party, who shall be appointed by the Speaker. The Committee shall investigate any member for misconduct, disorderly conduct, neglect of duty, conflict of interest, violation of chapter 84, Hawaii Revised Statutes, or violation of these Rules. The Select Committee on Standards of Conduct shall operate in accordance with rules and procedures adopted by the House.
- 62.8.** Except as provided, a member shall not accept an honorarium related to the member's legislative role, duties, or responsibilities. For the purposes of this rule, an "honorarium" means compensation provided to a member for services rendered by the member under conditions for which there is no contractual or legal obligation by the recipient of the services to compensate the member. The following shall not be considered an honorarium:
- (1) Reasonable and verifiable expenses for the member's meals, travel, lodging, and for care of a child or dependent adult that are actually incurred;
 - (2) Permissible gifts under chapter 84, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
 - (3) Anything of value that is otherwise reported or reportable as a campaign donation or expenditure; or
 - (4) Any compensation if the member is requested to appear and/or speak on a topic or issue that is not related to the member's legislative role or duties.
- 62.9.** Even if permitted by Rule 62.8, a member may not accept an honorarium if the offering of the honorarium is made for the purpose of influencing the performance of a member's official duties.
- 62.10.** No member shall solicit any monetary campaign contribution from an employee over whom the member has authority to exercise direct control.
- "Direct control" means the authority to subject a person to an adverse employment action, including termination, reduction in compensation, demotion, or denial of a promotion.
- 62.11.** Nothing herein shall be construed to limit, approve, prohibit, or infringe upon the proper jurisdiction of the Ethics Commission.

PART XIV. SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Rule 63. Social Media Policy

- 63.1.** The following pertains to a House member's use of any social media account considered their official legislative social media account.
- "Official legislative social media account" means any account such as Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, or any other similar account which a member uses for communication with the public and identifies themselves as a state representative and is not used for campaigning, private business, or other purpose in violation of the State Ethics Code.
- For the purpose of brevity, "official account" is synonymous with "official legislative social media account."
- 63.2.** When using an official account, a member shall adhere to the following:
- (1) All content in official social media communication must be related to official legislative business. This includes matters which relate directly or indirectly to the legislative process, functions, and operations, constituent services, state issues of public concern, and issues related to the member's district.
 - (2) Members shall not use their official accounts to disparage other members or individuals, and shall not encourage, support, or invite disparagement or threats by commenters. This includes posts on a member's own official account page as well as posts on other social media pages using the member's official account.
 - (3) Content may not be used to disparage other members, other individuals, or political parties. This includes featuring other members, individuals, or political parties in a way that invites disparaging or threatening comments or reactions, even if the content is presented

- in a neutral manner.
- (4) The use of original recordings of official legislative business such as floor proceedings or committee meetings is allowed, as long as their use is not in violation of any other provisions of the House Rules. Any introduction, overlays of graphic images, logos of the offices, or words that are not part of the transcript must be consistent with this Rule.
 - (5) Hyperlinks may not link to any websites or documents that contain campaign-related information, comments, or that, by association with the member's official accounts, violate the State Ethics Code (chapter 84, Hawaii Revised Statutes).
 - (6) No campaign content, electioneering, or fundraising on official account pages.
 - (7) No content developed using campaign resources.
 - (8) No endorsement or promotion of non-governmental companies, products, or services, including charitable organizations.
- 63.3.** Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action. Complaints may be addressed according to Part XIII of these Rules.
- 63.4.** This policy is in addition to any requirements of the "House Computer, Software, E-Mail, Internet and Communications Technology Use Policy" and the "Request to Add Social Media Links to My Legislative Webpage" form.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

RULES FOR THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

STATE OF HAWAII
THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

2025-2026

RULES FOR THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

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Preface

The purpose of these rules is to enable the Select Committee on Standards of Conduct to properly perform the powers and duties vested in the Committee, including the conduct of hearings, in a fair and impartial manner, consistent with the protection of constitutional rights of persons called to testify at hearings and the preservation of public good.

PART I. DEFINITIONS

1.1. Definitions. As used in these rules, unless a different meaning is clearly intended by the context:

"Adjudicatory review" means a proceeding undertaken by the Committee after a finding, on the basis of a preliminary inquiry, that there is substantial cause for the Committee to conclude that a violation within the jurisdiction of the Committee has occurred.

"Authorized membership" means the total number of members appointed to the Committee.

"Chair" includes the Chair appointed by the Speaker, or in the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair appointed by the Speaker, or in the absence of both the Chair and Vice Chair, a member designated by the Chair.

"Committee" means the Select Committee on Standards of Conduct established under House Rule 62.7.

"Executive session" means a session at which only members, staff, witnesses, and counsel for a witness or witnesses are permitted to be present. Other individuals may be admitted to an executive session for a specified period or purpose on the motion of a member with the approval of the Chair and Vice Chair. An executive session may be convened by a two-thirds vote of the authorized membership.

"House" means the House of Representatives.

"Member" means a member of the Committee.

"Preliminary inquiry" means a proceeding undertaken by the Committee following the receipt of a complaint from a Representative about misconduct to determine whether there is substantial credible evidence that provides substantial cause for the Committee to conclude that a violation within the jurisdiction of the Committee has occurred.

"Quorum" means a majority of the authorized membership provided that, except for an adjudicatory hearing under Part 6 or the taking of a deposition under Part 7, one member shall constitute a quorum to hear testimony if all members have been given notice of the hearing and a member of the majority party and a member of the minority party have been designated by the Chair and Vice Chair respectively to be in attendance.

"Speaker" means the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PART 2. GENERAL APPLICABILITY

2.1. Powers of the Speaker of the House. The Speaker shall have administrative authority over the activities and operations of the Committee to:

- (1) Assign appropriate staff and to direct appropriate services to assist the Committee in accomplishing its purpose;
- (2) Adjust the respective membership of the Committee as deemed necessary, including the filling of vacancies; and
- (3) In the absence of the Chair, sign hearing notices or subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum, as authorized to be issued by the Committee.

2.2. Vacancies. Vacancies shall not affect the authority of the remaining members to execute the functions of the Committee.

2.3. Meetings. Meetings may be held at the call of the Chair if at least 48 hours notice is furnished to all members. If all members agree, or if approved by the Speaker, a meeting may be held on less than 48 hours notice.

2.4. Quorum. A quorum shall be present for the transaction of business involving complaints or allegations of, or information about, misconduct, including resulting preliminary inquiries, adjudicatory reviews, recommendations, and reports.

2.5. Order of Business. The order of business and the procedure of the Committee shall be decided by the Chair and Vice Chair.

2.6. Hearings Announcements. The Committee shall publicly announce the date, place, and subject matter of its hearing at least one week before the commencement of that hearing. If the Committee determines that there is good cause to commence a hearing at an earlier date, notice shall be given at the earliest possible time.

2.7. Committee Meetings. Meetings of the Committee shall be open to the public unless the meeting is held in executive session.

2.8. Record of Testimony and Committee Action. (a) An accurate stenographic or transcribed electronic record shall be kept of all Committee proceedings, whether in executive or public session, which record shall include rulings of the Chair, questions of the Committee and its staff, the testimony or responses of witnesses, sworn written statements submitted to the Committee, any vote of the Committee, and such other matters as the Committee or the Chair may direct.

(b) The record of any remarks made by a member, Committee staff, outside counsel retained by the Committee, counsel for the witness, or witness, whether in public or executive session, shall be made available for inspection in accordance with Part 10 under Committee supervision at a time and place determined by the Chair; a copy of any testimony given by a witness in public session, or that part of the testimony given by the witness in executive session and subsequently quoted or made part of the record in a public session shall be made available to any witness if requested.

(c) Any member, Committee staff, outside counsel retained by the Committee, counsel for the witness, or witness may suggest to the official reporter, any corrections to typographical or transcription errors. If the reporter declines to make the requested corrections, the member, staff, outside counsel, counsel for the witness, or witness may request a ruling by the Chair and Vice Chair, acting jointly. Any questions arising with respect to the processing and correction of transcripts shall be decided by the Chair and Vice Chair, acting jointly.

(d) Except for the record of a hearing which is closed to the public, each transcript shall be printed as soon as is practicable after receipt of the corrected version. The Chair and Vice Chair, acting jointly, may order the transcript of a hearing to be printed without corrections if a reasonable time to correct the transcript has been afforded and corrections have not been requested.

(e) Records of the Committee shall be maintained by the Chief Clerk of the House.

2.9. Ineligibility or Disqualification of Members. (a) A member shall be ineligible to participate in any Committee proceeding that relates specifically to any of the following:

(1) A preliminary inquiry or adjudicatory review relating to:

(i) The conduct of the member; or

(ii) Any complaint filed by the member against another Representative; and

(2) The determinations and recommendations of the Committee with respect to any preliminary inquiry or adjudicatory review described in subparagraph (1).

A member may also be ineligible to participate if the member's staff will be a witness.

(b) If any Committee proceeding appears to relate to a member in a manner described in paragraph (a), the staff shall prepare a report to the Chair and Vice Chair. If either the Chair or the Vice Chair concludes from the report that it appears that the member may be ineligible to participate in a Committee proceeding, the member shall be notified in writing of the nature of the particular proceeding and the reason that it appears that the member may be ineligible to participate in it. If the member agrees to the ineligibility, the member shall notify the Chair or Vice Chair. If the member does not agree, the member may explain the reasons to the Chair and Vice Chair, and if they both agree that the member is eligible, the member shall continue to serve. But if either the Chair or Vice Chair continues to believe that the member is ineligible and the member disagrees, the matter shall be promptly referred to the Committee. The member shall present arguments to the Committee in executive session. Any contested questions concerning a member's eligibility shall be decided by a majority vote of the Committee, meeting in executive session, with the member in question not participating.

(c) Members may disqualify themselves from participating in any preliminary inquiry or adjudicatory review pending before the Committee and the determinations and recommendations of the Committee with respect to any such preliminary inquiry or adjudicatory review.

(d) Whenever any member is ineligible under paragraph (a) to participate in any preliminary inquiry or adjudicatory review, or is disqualified under paragraphs (b) and (c) from participating in any preliminary inquiry or adjudicatory review, another Representative shall be appointed by the Speaker, after written notice about the ineligibility or disqualification, to serve as a member solely for purposes of such preliminary inquiry or adjudicatory review and the determinations and recommendations of the Committee with respect to such preliminary inquiry or adjudicatory review. Any Representative appointed for such purposes shall be of the same party as the member who is ineligible or disqualified.

(e) The Speaker shall be given written notice of the ineligibility or disqualification of any member from any preliminary inquiry, adjudicatory review, or other proceeding requiring the appointment of another member in accordance with paragraph (d).

2.10. Television, Film, Radio. Public hearings or meetings may be televised, filmed, or otherwise recorded and made public, unless otherwise determined by a two-thirds vote of the authorized membership. Photographers and reporters using mechanical recording, filming, or broadcasting apparatus shall position their equipment so as not to interfere with the seating, vision, and hearing of the members and staff, or with the orderly process of the meeting or hearing.

2.11. Legislative Recommendations. The Committee shall recommend to the House by report or resolution any additional rules or other legislative measures as it determines to be necessary or desirable to ensure proper standards of conduct by Representatives. The Committee may conduct inquiries as it deems necessary to prepare this report or resolution, including the holding of hearings in public or executive session and the use of subpoenas as provided for in Part 3. The Committee may make legislative recommendations as a result of its findings in a preliminary inquiry, adjudicatory review, or other proceeding.

2.12. Educational Mandate. The Committee may develop and implement programs and materials designed to educate members about the laws, rules, and standards of conduct applicable to members in the performance of their duties.

2.13. Limitations. Nothing in these rules shall be construed to limit or prohibit the acquisition of evidence or information by the Committee through any lawful means.

PART 3. GENERAL PROCEDURES

3.1. Right to Hearing. The Committee shall give the Representative responding to the complaint or facing an adjudicatory review under Part 6 an opportunity for a hearing before it recommends disciplinary action against that Representative to the House or before it imposes an order of restitution or reprimand (not requiring discipline by the full House).

3.2. Closed Hearings. All hearings of the Committee relating to allegations of misconduct shall be closed to the public unless the Committee determines by a two-thirds vote of the authorized membership that a hearing should be public.

3.3. Adjudicatory Hearings. The Committee may, by a two-thirds vote of the authorized membership, designate any public hearing or executive session as an adjudicatory hearing. Any hearing which is concerned with possible disciplinary action against a respondent or respondents designated by the Committee shall be an adjudicatory hearing. In any adjudicatory hearing, the procedures described in Part 6 shall apply.

3.4. Presiding Officer. The Chair shall preside over hearings.

3.5. Subpoenas. (a) The Committee, with the concurrence of the Speaker, may issue, by a two-thirds vote of the authorized membership, subpoenas requiring the attendance of witnesses and subpoenas duces tecum requiring the production of books, documents, or other evidence, in any matter pending before the Committee.

(b) The form of subpoenas, the manner of service, witness service fees, and notice requirements shall be as provided in sections 21-8 and 21-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

(c) Every subpoena and subpoena duces tecum authorized to be issued by the Committee shall be issued under the signature of the Chair and shall command each person to whom it is directed to attend and give testimony at a time and place thereon specified, and if requested by the Committee, to produce the books, papers, documents, or tangible things required by the Committee to be produced.

(d) The Committee may delegate to the Chair the authority to specify the time and place at which the person subpoenaed is to attend and give testimony and to designate the books, papers, documents, or tangible things required by the Committee to be produced.

(e) The Committee, by a two-thirds vote of the authorized membership, may withdraw a subpoena issued on behalf of the Committee.

3.6. Depositions. Depositions shall be taken in accordance with Part 7.

3.7. Oath or Affirmation. (a) All testimony given or adduced at a hearing; preliminary inquiry under Part 5; or adjudicatory review or hearing under Part 6, shall be made under oath or affirmation unless the requirement is dispensed with in a particular instance by a majority of the members present at a hearing. Any member may administer an oath or affirmation to a witness at a hearing of the Committee.

(b) The form of the oath or affirmation shall be as follows: "Do you solemnly swear or affirm that the testimony you are about to give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?"

3.8. Witnesses. Any witness may be asked, or subpoenaed, to testify at a hearing or adjudicatory review and shall have the rights set forth under Part 8.

3.9. Right to Testify. Persons whose names are mentioned or who are specifically identified or otherwise referred to in testimony or in statements made by a member, staff, or outside counsel, or any witness, and who reasonably believe that a statement tends to adversely affect their reputation may:

- (1) Request to appear personally before the Committee to testify on their own behalf; or
- (2) File a sworn statement of facts relevant to the testimony or other evidence or statement complained of. Such requests and statements shall be submitted to the Committee for its consideration and action.

3.10. Committee Report; Opposing Views. Each member shall be given a reasonable opportunity to have separate views included as part of any Committee report.

PART 4. PROCEDURES FOR COMPLAINTS, ALLEGATIONS, OR INFORMATION

4.1. Complaint, Allegation, or Information. Any Representative may report to the Committee a sworn complaint alleging that a Representative has violated a law, the House Code of Legislative Conduct, or any rule of the House relating to conduct of any individual in the performance of duties as a Representative, or has engaged in improper conduct which may reflect negatively upon the House. Complaints may be reported to the Chair, the Vice Chair, or a member.

Complaints shall not be accepted by the Committee during an election year on, or after, the filing deadline until one day after the general election. During this time, the Speaker shall accept complaints, allegations, or information and determine the action to be taken.

4.2. Form and Content of Complaints. A complaint shall be sworn but need not be in any particular form to receive Committee consideration, but shall:

- (1) State the name of the party filing the complaint;
- (2) Provide the name of each Representative who is specifically alleged to have engaged in improper conduct or committed a violation; and
- (3) State the nature of the alleged improper conduct or violation and may supply documents in the possession of the party filing the complaint relevant to or in support of the allegations as an attachment to the complaint.

For the purposes of this Rule, a "sworn complaint" means a written statement of facts, submitted under penalty of perjury, alleging a violation of law, the Code of Legislative Conduct, or any other Rule relating to the conduct of individuals in the performance of their duties as Representatives.

PART 5. PROCEDURES FOR CONDUCTING A PRELIMINARY INQUIRY

5.1. Basis for Preliminary Inquiry. The Committee shall promptly commence a preliminary inquiry whenever it has received a sworn complaint from a Representative about alleged misconduct or violations by a Representative pursuant to Part 4; provided that the Chair and Vice Chair, acting jointly on behalf of the Committee may dismiss any matter, which is determined to lack substantial merit.

5.2. Scope of Preliminary Inquiry. (a) The preliminary inquiry shall be of a duration and scope necessary to determine whether there is substantial credible evidence, which provides substantial cause for the Committee to conclude that a violation within the jurisdiction of the Committee has occurred. The Chair and Vice Chair, acting jointly, on behalf of the Committee may supervise and determine the appropriate duration, scope, and conduct of a preliminary inquiry. Whether a preliminary inquiry is conducted jointly by the Chair and Vice Chair or by the Committee as a whole, the day-to-day supervision of a preliminary inquiry rests with the Chair and Vice Chair, acting jointly.

(b) A preliminary inquiry may include any inquiries, interviews, sworn statements, depositions, or subpoenas deemed appropriate to obtain information to make any determination provided for by these rules.

5.3. Opportunity for Response. A preliminary inquiry shall include an opportunity for the Representative against whom the complaint is being brought or the Representative's designated representative to present either a written statement, or to respond orally to questions from the Committee. Oral statements or answers shall be transcribed and signed by the person providing the statement or answers.

5.4. Final Report. When the preliminary inquiry is completed, the Chair and Vice Chair shall make a report, oral or written, to the Committee on findings and recommendations, as appropriate. Disclosure of this report shall be governed by rules provided under Part 10.

5.5. Committee Action. As soon as practicable following submission of the report by the Chair and Vice Chair on the preliminary inquiry, the Committee shall determine by a recorded vote of a majority of members to which the Committee is entitled whether there is substantial credible evidence which provides substantial cause for the Committee to conclude that a violation within the jurisdiction of the Committee has occurred. The Committee may make any of the following determinations:

- (1) That there is not substantial credible evidence and in this case the Committee shall dismiss the matter. The Committee shall inform the complainant and the respondent to the complaint of the dismissal;
- (2) That there is substantial credible evidence, but that the alleged violation is inadvertent, technical, or otherwise of a de minimis nature. In this case, the Committee may dispose of the matter by issuing a public or private letter of admonition, which shall not be considered discipline and which shall not be subject to appeal to the House. The issuance of a letter of admonition shall be approved by the affirmative recorded vote of not less two-thirds of the authorized membership; and
- (3) That there is substantial credible evidence and that the matter cannot be appropriately disposed of under paragraph (2). In this case, the Committee shall promptly initiate an adjudicatory review in accordance with Part 6. No adjudicatory review of the conduct of a Representative may be initiated except by the affirmative recorded vote of not less than two-thirds of the authorized membership.

PART 6. PROCEDURES FOR CONDUCTING AN ADJUDICATORY REVIEW AND ADJUDICATORY HEARING

6.1. Scope of Adjudicatory Review. When the Committee decides to conduct an adjudicatory review, it shall be of a duration and scope necessary for the Committee to determine whether a violation within its jurisdiction has occurred. An adjudicatory review shall be conducted by the Committee unless the Committee determines to use outside counsel for this purpose. In the course of the adjudicatory review, the Committee may conduct any inquiries, interviews, or hearings, take sworn statements, use its subpoena powers, take depositions, or take any other actions that the Committee deems appropriate to secure the evidence necessary to make a determination.

6.2. Notice to Respondent. The Committee shall give written notice to the Representative who is the subject of an adjudicatory review. The notice shall be sent to the Representative against whom the complaint has been made no later than five working days after the Committee has voted to conduct an adjudicatory review. The notice shall include a statement of the nature of the possible violation and description of the evidence indicating that a possible violation occurred. The Committee may offer the Representative an opportunity to present a statement, orally or in writing, or to respond to questions from members, or outside counsel, if such counsel has been retained by the Committee.

6.3. Final Report of Adjudicatory Review to Committee. Upon completion of an adjudicatory review, the Chair and Vice Chair shall submit a written report to the Committee, which shall detail the factual findings of the adjudicatory review and which may recommend disciplinary action, if appropriate. Findings of fact of the adjudicatory review shall be detailed in this report whether or not disciplinary action is recommended. Disclosure of this report shall be governed by rules provided under Part 10.

6.4. Committee Action. (a) As soon as practicable following submission of the report of the Chair and Vice Chair on the adjudicatory review, the Committee shall prepare and submit a report to the House, including a recommendation to the House concerning disciplinary action, if appropriate. A report shall be issued, stating in detail the Committee's findings of fact, whether or not disciplinary action is recommended. The report shall also explain fully the reasons underlying the Committee's recommendation concerning disciplinary action, if any. No adjudicatory review of conduct may be conducted, or report or recommendation relating to an adjudicatory review of conduct may be made, except by the affirmative recorded vote of not less than two-thirds of the authorized membership.

(b) After receipt of the report prescribed by Rule 6.3, the Committee, by a recorded vote of not less than two-thirds of the authorized membership, may make recommendations for disciplinary action or issue an order for reprimand or restitution, as follows:

- (1) A recommendation to the House for expulsion, censure, payment of restitution, recommendation to the Speaker regarding the Representative's positions of responsibility and committee assignments, or a combination of these;
- (2) In the case where the Committee determines, after according due notice and opportunity for a hearing, that misconduct occurred warranting discipline less serious than discipline by the full House, and subject to Rule 6.5 relating to appeal, by a unanimous vote of six members order that a Representative be reprimanded or pay restitution or both; and
- (3) In the case where the Committee determines that misconduct is inadvertent, technical, or otherwise of a de minimis nature, issuance of a public

or private letter of admonition to a Representative, which shall not be subject to appeal to the House.

(c) In the case where the Committee determines, upon consideration of all the evidence, that the facts do not warrant a finding that there is substantial credible evidence which provides substantial cause for the Committee to conclude that a violation within the jurisdiction of the Committee has occurred, the Committee may dismiss the matter.

(d) Promptly after the conclusion of the adjudicatory review, the Committee report and recommendation, if any, shall be forwarded to the Chief Clerk of the House, and a copy shall be provided to the Representative bringing the complaint and the Representative responding to the complaint.

6.5. Right of Appeal. (a) Any individual who is the subject of a reprimand or order of restitution, or both, pursuant to Rule 6.4 (b)(2), may, within ten days of the Committee's report to the House of its action imposing a reprimand or order of restitution, or both, appeal to the House by providing written notice of the appeal to the Committee and the Speaker. The Speaker shall cause the notice of the appeal to be printed in the House Journal.

(b) A motion to proceed to consideration of an appeal pursuant to paragraph (a) shall be highly privileged and not debatable. If the motion to proceed to consideration of the appeal is agreed to, the appeal shall be decided on the basis of the Committee's report to the House. Debate on the appeal shall be limited to two hours, which shall be divided equally between those favoring and those opposing the appeal.

6.6. Adjudicatory Hearings; Notice. A copy of the public announcement of an adjudicatory hearing shall be furnished together with a copy of this Part to all witnesses at the time that they are subpoenaed or otherwise summoned to testify.

6.7. Adjudicatory Hearings; Preparation. (a) At least two working days prior to the commencement of an adjudicatory hearing, the Committee shall provide the following information and documents to the Representative responding to the complaint, if any:

- (i) A list of proposed witnesses to be called at the hearing;
- (ii) Copies of all documents expected to be introduced as exhibits at the hearing; and
- (iii) A brief statement as to the nature of the testimony expected to be given by each witness to be called at the hearing.

(b) At least two working days prior to the commencement of an adjudicatory hearing, the respondent, if any, shall provide the information and documents described in paragraph (a) to the Committee.

(c) At the discretion of the Committee, the information and documents to be exchanged under this Part shall be subject to an appropriate agreement limiting access and disclosure.

(d) If a Representative responding to the complaint refuses to provide the information and documents to the Committee (see paragraphs (a) and (b)), or if a responding Representative or other individual violates an agreement limiting access and disclosure, the Committee, by a two-thirds vote of the authorized membership, may recommend to the House that the offender be cited for contempt.

6.8. Adjudicatory Hearings; Right to Cross-Examine and Call Witnesses. (a) In adjudicatory hearings, respondents and any other persons upon obtaining the permission of the Committee, may personally or through counsel cross-examine witnesses called by the Committee and may call witnesses on their own behalf.

(b) A Representative responding to a complaint may apply to the Committee for the issuance of subpoenas for the appearance of witnesses or the production of documents on the Representative's behalf. An application shall be approved upon a concise showing by the responding Representative that the proposed testimony or evidence is relevant and appropriate, as determined by the Chair and Vice Chair. The subpoena shall be issued pursuant to Part 3.

(c) With respect to witnesses called by a responding Representative, or other individual given permission by the Committee, each witness shall first be examined by the party who called the witness or by that party's counsel.

6.9. Adjudicatory Hearing; Admissibility of Evidence. (a) The object of the hearing shall be to ascertain the truth. Any evidence that may be relevant and probative shall be admissible unless privileged under the Hawaii Rules of Evidence. Rules of evidence shall not be applied strictly, but the Chair shall exclude irrelevant or unduly repetitious testimony. Objections going only to the weight that should be given evidence will not justify its exclusion.

(b) The Chair shall rule upon any question of the admissibility of testimony or other evidence presented to the Committee. Rulings shall be final unless reversed or modified by a two-thirds vote of the authorized membership before the recess of that day's hearings.

(c) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a) and (b), in any matter before the Committee involving allegations of sexual discrimination, including sexual harassment, or sexual misconduct, by a Representative, the Committee shall be guided by the standards and procedures of Rule 412 of the Hawaii Rules of Evidence, except that the Committee may admit evidence subject to the provisions of this paragraph only by a two-thirds vote of the authorized membership that the interests of justice require that this evidence be admitted.

6.10. Adjudicatory Hearing; Supplementary Hearing Procedures. The Committee may adopt any additional special hearing procedures that it deems necessary, or appropriate to a particular adjudicatory hearing, copies of the supplementary procedures shall be furnished to witnesses and respondents, and shall be made available upon request to any member of the public.

PART 7. DEPOSITIONS

7.1. Persons Authorized to Take Depositions. Depositions may be taken by any member designated by the Chair and Vice Chair, acting jointly, or by any other person designated by the Chair and Vice Chair, acting jointly, including outside counsel, Committee staff, other employees of the House, or government employees assigned to the Committee.

7.2. Deposition Notices. Notices for the taking of depositions shall be authorized by the Chair and Vice Chair, acting jointly, and issued by the Chair, Vice Chair, or Committee staff or outside counsel designated by the Chair and Vice Chair, acting jointly. Depositions may be taken at any time during a preliminary inquiry, adjudicatory review or other proceeding. Deposition notices shall specify a time and place for examination. Unless otherwise specified, the deposition shall be in private, and the testimony taken and documents produced shall be deemed for the purpose of these Rules to have been received in an executive

session of the Committee. The Committee shall not initiate procedures leading to criminal or civil enforcement proceedings for a witness's failure to appear, or to testify, or to produce documents, unless the deposition notice was accompanied by a subpoena.

7.3. Deposition Procedure. Witnesses at depositions shall be examined under oath. Questions may be propounded by any person or persons who are authorized to take depositions for the Committee, if a witness objects to a question and refuses to testify, or refuses to produce a document, the Chair or Vice Chair, if present, may rule on the objection and, if the objection is overruled, direct the witness to answer the question or produce the document. If the Chair or Vice Chair is not present, the individual who has been designated by the Chair and Vice Chair, acting jointly, to take the deposition may proceed with the deposition, or may, at that time or at a subsequent time, seek a ruling by telephone or otherwise on the objection from the Chair or Vice Chair of the Committee, who may refer the matter to the Committee or rule on the objection, if the Chair or Vice Chair, or the Committee upon referral, overrules the objection, the Chair, Vice Chair, or the Committee as the case may be, may direct the witness to answer the question or produce the document, the Committee shall not initiate procedures leading to civil or criminal enforcement unless the witness refuses to testify or produce documents after having been directed to do so.

7.4. Filing of Depositions. Deposition testimony shall be transcribed or electronically recorded. If the deposition is transcribed, the individual administering the oath shall certify on the transcript that the witness was duly sworn in the presence of that individual and the transcriber shall certify that the transcript is a true record of the testimony. The transcript with these certificates shall be filed with the clerk of the Committee, and the witness shall be furnished with access to a copy at the Committee's offices for review. Upon inspecting the transcript, within a time limit set by the Chair and Vice Chair, acting jointly, a witness may request in writing changes in the transcript to correct errors in transcription. The witness may also bring to the attention of the Committee errors of fact in the witness's testimony by submitting a sworn statement about those facts with a request that it be attached to the transcript. The Chair and Vice Chair, acting jointly, may rule on the witness's request, and the changes or attachments allowed shall be certified by the Committee's clerk. If the witness fails to make any request under this paragraph within the time limit set, this fact shall be noted by the Committee's clerk. Any person authorized by the Committee may stipulate with the witness to changes in this procedure.

PART 8. RIGHTS OF WITNESSES

8.1. Television, Film, Radio. Any witness served with a subpoena by the Committee may request not to be photographed or to give evidence or testimony while the broadcasting, reproduction, or coverage of that hearing, by radio, television, still photography, or, other methods is occurring. At the request of any witness who does not wish to be subjected to radio, television, still photography, or other methods of coverage, and subject to the approval of the Committee, all lenses shall be covered and all microphones used for coverage turned off.

8.2. Right to Counsel. Every witness at a hearing, adjudicatory review, adjudicatory hearing, or deposition, may be accompanied by counsel of the witness' own choosing, who may advise the witness of the witness' rights, subject to reasonable limitations which the Committee may prescribe to prevent obstruction of or interference with the orderly conduct of the hearing.

8.3. Statements. (a) A witness, or the witness' counsel, with the consent of a majority of the members present at the hearing, may file with the Committee for incorporation into the record of the hearing, sworn written statements relevant to the purpose, subject matter, and scope of the Committee's investigation or inquiry. If a witness, or witness' counsel, desires to read the prepared or written statement, the determination of whether the statement may be read or simply placed in the record of the hearing shall be made by the Chair and Vice Chair, acting jointly.

(b) The witness or witness' counsel may also submit additional sworn testimony for the record within 24 hours after the last day that the witness has testified. The insertion of such testimony in that day's record is subject to the approval of the Chair and Vice Chair, acting jointly, within five days after the testimony is received.

8.4. Proposed Questions. A witness at a hearing, or the witness' counsel may submit to the Committee questions proposed to be asked of the witness or any other witness relevant to the matters upon which there has been any questioning or submission of evidence, and the Committee shall ask those questions that the Committee determines to be appropriate for the subject matter of the hearing. Questions shall be submitted to the Committee at least one working day before a witness's scheduled appearance.

8.5. Opening Statements. As far as practicable, each witness may be permitted to present a brief oral opening statement.

PART 9. VIOLATIONS OF LAW; CONTEMPT; PERJURY; AND APPLICABLE RULES AND STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

9.1. Violations of Law. Whenever the Committee determines by a two-thirds vote of the authorized membership that there is reason to believe that a violation of law, including the provision of false information to the Committee, may have occurred, it shall report the possible violation to the proper state and local authorities.

9.2. Contempt. (a) A person shall be in contempt if the person:

- (1) Fails or refuses to appear in compliance with a subpoena, or having appeared, fails or refuses to testify under oath or affirmation;
- (2) Fails or refuses to answer any relevant question or fails or refuses to furnish any relevant book, paper, or other document subpoenaed by or on behalf of the Committee; or
- (3) Commits any other act or offense against the Committee, which, if committed against the Legislature, or either House thereof, would constitute contempt.

(b) The Committee may, by a two-thirds vote of the authorized membership, report to the Speaker, any instance of alleged contempt. The Speaker shall certify the report of such contempt under the signature of the Speaker to the State Attorney General who shall prosecute the offender in any court of the State.

9.3. Perjury. Any person who knowingly and willfully swears falsely to a sworn complaint or any other sworn statement to the Committee does so under penalty of perjury. The Committee may refer any such case to the State Attorney General for prosecution.

9.4. Applicable Rules and Standards of Conduct. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Part, no adjudicatory review shall be initiated for any alleged violation of any law, the House Code of Legislative Conduct, or Rule, which was not in effect at the time the alleged violation occurred. No provisions

of the House Code of Legislative Conduct shall apply to or require disclosure of any act, relationship, or transaction which occurred prior to the effective date of the applicable provision of the House Code of Legislative Conduct.

(b) The Committee may initiate an adjudicatory review of any alleged violation of a rule or law which was in effect prior to the enactment of the House Code of Legislative Conduct if the alleged violation occurred while such rule or law was in effect and the violation was not a matter resolved on the merits by the predecessor Committee.

PART 10. RULES OF DISCLOSURE

10.1. Non-Disclosure Policy. Except as provided in Rule 10.2, no Representative, member, staff, or any person engaged by contract or otherwise to perform services for the Committee shall release, divulge, publish, reveal by writing, word, conduct, or disclose in any way, in whole or in part, or by way of summary, including during tenure with the Committee or anytime thereafter, information or material in the possession of the Committee which pertains to illegal or improper conduct by a present or former Representative; allegations or accusations of this conduct; any resulting preliminary inquiry, adjudicatory review or other proceeding by the Committee into these allegations or conduct and any report issued about the inquiry, review, or other proceeding; the investigative techniques and procedures of the Committee; any testimony or other evidence given before the Committee in executive session (including the name of any witness who appeared or was called to appear in executive session), any classified or Committee-sensitive information, document or material, received or generated by the Committee, any material or information deemed to be confidential by the Chair and Vice Chair, acting jointly, or any classified or Committee-sensitive information which may come into the possession of this person during tenure with the Committee or its staff. No such information shall be made public unless authorized by a two-thirds vote of the authorized membership.

10.2. Disclosure to Executive and Judicial Officials. (a) Information, documents, or materials may be released to an official of the executive branch properly cleared for access with a need-to-know, for any purpose or in connection with any proceeding, judicial or otherwise, as authorized by the Committee or, in the event of termination of the Committee, in such a manner as may be determined by its successor or by the House.

(b) Information, documents, or materials may be released to an official of the judicial branch if it is required for judicial purposes, as authorized by the Committee or, in the event of termination of the Committee, in such a manner as may be determined by its successor or by the House.

10.3. Committee-Sensitive Documents. (a) Committee-sensitive documents and materials shall be stored in the Chair's office, with appropriate safeguards for maintaining the security of the documents or materials. Removal from the Chair's office of these documents or materials is prohibited except as necessary for use in, or preparation for, interviews or Committee meetings, including the taking of testimony, or as otherwise specifically approved by the Chair and Vice Chair, acting jointly.

(b) Each member shall have access to all materials in the Chair's possession. Members' staff shall not have access to Committee-sensitive documents and materials without the specific approval in each instance of the Chair and Vice Chair, acting jointly. Members may examine these materials in the Chair's office.

(c) Any Representative, who is not a member and who seeks access to any Committee-sensitive documents or materials, other than documents or materials which are matters of public record, shall request access in writing. The Committee shall decide by a two-thirds vote of the authorized membership whether to share documents or materials available. If access is granted, the Representative shall not disclose the information found in the documents or materials except as authorized by the Committee.

(d) Whenever the Committee makes Committee-sensitive documents or materials available to any Representative who is not a member in response to a specific request to the Chair and Vice Chair, a written record shall be made identifying the Representative requesting such documents or materials and describing what was made available to the Representative.

10.4. Release of Report to Public. All information of official actions, statements, or positions of the Committee shall be made by the Chair.

PART 11. CHANGES IN SUPPLEMENTARY PROCEDURAL RULES

11.1. Adoption of Changes in Supplementary Rules. The Rules of the Select Committee on the Standards of Conduct, other than rules established by statute, or by the Rules of the House, may be modified, amended, or suspended at any time, pursuant to a recorded vote of not less than two-thirds of the authorized membership taken at a meeting called with due notice after prior written notice of the proposed change has been provided each member.

11.2. Publication. Any amendments to the Rules of this Committee shall be published.

SCRep. 1 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 225

The purpose of this measure is to establish a working group within the Department of the Attorney General to study the issue of squatting in Hawaii and submit a report of its findings to the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services and Office of the Public Defender.

Your Committee finds that squatting presents a challenging and legally complex issue in the State. Even when members of the public report public nuisances on private property, law enforcement officers cannot remove squatters unless the property owner makes a trespass complaint, which allows squatters to continuously trespass on vacant or abandoned properties. Additionally, a property owner may claim that occupants are trespassing as squatters while the occupants claim they are former or present tenants. Therefore, this measure establishes a working group to study this issue and identify a more efficient process for addressing squatting in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the composition of the working group, including adding, replacing, and removing certain members;
- (2) Clarifying that the chair of the working group shall invite certain public members of the working group to participate;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 225, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 225, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 2 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 280

The purpose of this measure is to permanently establish and appropriate funds for the Community Outreach Court as a division of the District Court of the First Circuit.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Office of the Public Defender; and Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition.

Your Committee finds that a Community Outreach Court Program was established in 2017 to assist non-violent offenders who are charged with offenses that disproportionately impact the homeless community by making court attendance more accessible, resolving any active charges, and utilizing alternative sentences such as community service work. Because the Community Outreach Court Program has proven to be successful in helping its participants address legal matters through alternative sentences, this measure would permanently establish the Community Outreach Court, which would allow participants to obtain basic necessities and, if necessary, access to appropriate social services.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 280, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 280, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 3 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 431

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Appropriate funds for the continued operation of the Kauhale Initiative;
- (2) Establish and appropriate funds into and out of the Supportive Housing Special Fund to assist the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to facilitate the development of mixed-income rental housing projects; and
- (3) Establish the Kauhale Initiative Special Fund to assist the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness; Department of Human Services; Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Kaua'i County Housing Agency; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Reimagining Public Safety in Hawai'i Coalition; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Going Home Hawai'i; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii has the highest homelessness rate per capita in the nation. The State has made significant strides in addressing the pressing issue of homelessness, but continued efforts are needed. This measure represents a critical step forward in meeting the housing needs of Hawaii's most vulnerable populations by providing additional funds for the Kauhale Initiative and enabling the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to work with developers to create additional supportive housing units. This measure further supports efforts to build partnerships between government and the community, which will help create an effective, efficient, and transparent system for developers, service providers, individuals with special housing needs, and the community as a whole.

Your Committee notes that to ensure transparency and fairness within the community, the procurement of services and projects related to the Kauhale Initiative should be awarded, to the extent possible, to multiple bidders and not just a single entity.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriations to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Deleting language that attempted to prevent the proper lapse of a general fund appropriation at the end of the fiscal biennium for which the appropriation was made;

- (3) Deleting language that would have established the Kauhale Initiative Special Fund;
- (4) Inserting language that appropriates an unspecified amount to assist the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions in implementing the Kauhale Initiative;
- (5) Changing the effective dates to June 29, 3000, and July 1, 3000, respectively, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$50,000,000 for the continued operation of the Kauhale Initiative and \$12,000,000 to be deposited into and out of the Supportive Housing Special Fund, including \$11,810,250 for the financing of the development, operation, and maintenance of affordable, supportive housing projects and the provision of supportive services for households with special needs who reside in the supportive housing projects and \$189,750 for the establishment and hiring of one temporary full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) Housing Finance Specialist I within the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to help with administration of the special fund.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 431, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 431, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Housing.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 4 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 701

The purpose of this measure is to establish a refundable tax credit for nonpaid family caregivers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging; AARP Hawai'i; Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Alzheimer's Association - Hawaii; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that unpaid family caregivers face significant physical, emotional, and financial challenges, often juggling caregiving duties alongside work and other personal responsibilities. Additionally, your Committee notes that family caregivers, on average, allocate twenty-six percent of their income to caregiving expenses, with over three-quarters covering out-of-pocket costs for items such as equipment, transportation, and home modifications. Therefore, this measure aims to alleviate the financial burden that unpaid family caregivers bear while supporting their loved ones in the State.

Your Committee notes the concerns raised in testimony by the Department of Taxation, regarding whether the Department has the appropriate personnel to determine tax credit eligibility. The Department of Taxation also noted that making the tax credit nonrefundable, rather than refundable as currently proposed by this measure, is preferable, as refundable credits are more susceptible to waste and could allow persons without a connection to the State to claim the credit and obtain a refund. The Department also noted that this measure makes the tax credit equal to the full amount of a taxpayer's expenses, whereas making the amount of the credit equal to a percentage of the taxpayer's expenses would discourage waste. Your Committee also notes the concerns raised in testimony about whether the tax credit is duplicative of an existing tax credit. Your Committee believes these concerns merit further discussion by your Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the definition for "kupuna care services", as this term is not used in this measure;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 701, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 701, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 5 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 753

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase a taxpayer's applicable percentage of employment-related expenses that is used to calculate the Household and Dependent Care Services Tax Credit; and
- (2) Extend the sunset date of the temporary increase in maximum employment-related expenses that are used to calculate the tax credit.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; AAUW of Hawaii; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; AARP Hawai'i; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Chamber of Sustainable Commerce; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that because the average cost of full-time child care in Hawaii currently exceeds \$13,000 per year for working families, the rising cost of child care should be reflected in the income tax credits allowed for expenses for household and dependent care services. While Act 163, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023 (Act 163), partially improved the Household and Dependent Care Services Tax Credit by increasing the claimable expenses, it did not raise the maximum percentage of expenses that can be claimed for the purposes of the tax credit, limiting its benefit. This measure increases the percentage of child and dependent care expenses eligible for the Household and Dependent Care Services Tax Credit, providing greater support for Hawaii's working families, and also fulfilling the Legislature's original intent for Act 163.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion;
- (2) Changing the sunset date to June 30, 3005; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 753, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 753, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 6 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 900

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a working group to improve family court processes, including access to legal representation for youth in the child welfare system.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Wellness and Resilience; Judiciary; Mālama 'Ohana Working Group; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawaii Coalition for Child Protective Reform; and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Malama Ohana Working Group established by Act 86, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, was tasked with recommending transformative changes to the State's existing child welfare system. Among the many recommendations of the working group was to strengthen the family court process for child welfare cases. Because the problems faced by children and families in the State's child welfare system are complex, the State must continue to work with the community and various stakeholders, including parents and children with lived experience in the child welfare system, to determine where necessary improvements to the family court process can be made.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the duties of the working group related to site visits to selected jurisdictions in other states to identify possible practices to implement in Hawaii;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 900, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 900, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 7 Labor on H.B. No. 201

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to supplement the salary of the State Fire Marshal.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Lāhainā Strong.

Your Committee finds that the State Fire Marshal's salary should be commensurate with the greater responsibilities contemplated in the Lahaina Fire Incident Analysis Report. Your Committee believes that this measure addresses this need by appropriating funds to supplement the salary of the State Fire Marshal.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 201, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 201, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Public Safety.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 8 Labor on H.B. No. 205

The purpose of this measure is to limit the amount an employee has to pay for clinically necessary nonprescription, over-the-counter, or nonlegend drugs for workers' compensation purposes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Insurers Council.

Your Committee finds that a payment rate for nonprescription, over-the-counter, or nonlegend drugs is necessary to limit the rising cost of workers' compensation insurance policies. Your Committee further finds that the State's unclear reimbursement rates for these drugs causes inflated drug prices, which then increases the cost of workers' compensation insurance policies. Your Committee believes that this measure will help reduce overall costs by establishing a clear payment rate in statute.

Your Committee amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that payment for nonprescription, over-the-counter, or nonlegend drugs shall not exceed cost plus forty per cent; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 205, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 205, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 9 Labor on H.B. No. 222

The purpose of this measure is to amend the definition of "employee" in Hawaii's wage and hour law by excluding individuals who are primarily engaged in the range production of livestock.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; and one individual. Your Committee received comments from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Your Committee finds that the existing definition of "employee" under Hawaii's wage and hour law does not exclude individuals who are primarily engaged in the range production of livestock. As the daily tasks of a livestock producer can vary widely on any given day, your Committee believes that excluding them from the definition of "employee" provides the necessary flexibility under the wage and hour law.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 222, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 222, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 10 Labor on H.B. No. 325

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit an employer from discriminating against a person in hiring, termination, or any term of condition of employment based on the person's status as a medical cannabis registry card holder, under certain conditions. This measure also authorizes an employer to use a fit-for-duty test for qualifying patients in potentially dangerous occupations and exempts certain occupations from the measure's nondiscrimination requirements.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Imua Alliance; Hawai'i Cannabis Industry Association; Aloha Green Apothecary; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Food Industry Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and Society of Human Resource Management.

Your Committee finds that although medical cannabis was legalized in the State in 2000, many individuals who possess a medical cannabis registry card and are seeking employment still lose out on employment opportunities because of an employer's drug-free workplace policy, while employers are unsure whether state laws supersede their power to enforce drug-free workplace policies. As such, greater clarity is needed to ensure that individuals' rights are protected while employers are still able to provide a safe workplace. Your Committee believes that this measure provides clarity and balance by preventing employers from discriminating against an individual based on their status as a medical cannabis registry card holder, while still authorizing employers to conduct fit-for-duty tests in potentially dangerous occupations and completely excluding certain occupations from the nondiscrimination requirements of this measure.

Your Committee amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 325, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 325, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 11 Labor on H.B. No. 480

The purpose of this measure is to streamline the approval process for functional capacity exams to ensure automatic approval of such exams when requested by the attending physician for an injured employee.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Hawai'i Association of Professional Nurses; Hawaii Insurers Council; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Resources and Development.

Your Committee finds that injured employees should receive medically necessary functional capacity exams upon a qualifying referral to improve the recovery of the injured employee. Your Committee further finds that functional capacity exams are critical for assessing whether an injured employee can return to work with or without accommodations, or to proceed with vocational rehabilitation when return to work is not possible. Currently, functional capacity exams are delayed because of pending approvals from insurers or adjusters. This process is further delayed by limiting who is qualified to perform functional capacity exams. Your Committee believes that this measure ensures the injured employee receives a functional capacity exam in a timely manner by authorizing attending physicians to request functional capacity exams without first obtaining the approval from an employer, and by allowing licensed occupational and physical therapists to perform these exams.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that a functional capacity exam can be requested when an injured employee has reached medical stabilization and is permanently unable to return to their usual and customary work; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 480, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 480, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 12 Labor on H.B. No. 595

The purpose of this measure is to establish the right of a person to record law enforcement activities and a private right of action for any violation of the right to record law enforcement activities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; All Hawaii News; Big Island Press Club; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the First Amendment of the United States Constitution protects freedom of speech and expression and courts have determined that this includes the right to record police officers in public spaces so long as it does not interfere with the officer's duties and is done lawfully. Your Committee further finds that it is important to protect the right to record law enforcement activities and prevent infringements upon this right. Your Committee believes that this measure strikes an appropriate balance between an individual's right to record law enforcement activities and to bring an action for any violation of this right with law enforcement's ability to carry out its duties.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 595, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 595, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 13 Labor on H.B. No. 815

The purpose of this measure is to require health benefits plans established by Board of Trustees of the Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund to meet or exceed the requirements of the Prepaid Health Care Act.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO and Hawaii State AFL-CIO. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that members enrolled in the Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund often pay forty percent of the total cost of their medical premiums while private sector employees covered under Hawaii's Prepaid Health Care Act contribute no more than 1.5 percent. Your Committee further finds that this measure will ensure that health benefits plans established by the Board of Trustees of the Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund meet or exceed requirements under Hawaii's Prepaid Health Care Act, providing more affordable health care options.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 815, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 815, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 14 Tourism on H.B. No. 97

The purpose of this measure is to establish a new regulatory framework for the sale of travel insurance in the State, including licensing and registration requirements for limited lines travel insurance producers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Crum & Forster, Allianz, United States Travel Insurance Association, and American Property Casualty Insurance Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committee finds that this measure will protect consumers in Hawaii by regulating the sale of travel insurance.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to October 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the amendments suggested by the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Tourism that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 97, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 97, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Holt).

SCRep. 15 Tourism on H.B. No. 348

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit lodging establishments from providing personal care products in small plastic containers within sleeping room accommodations, any space within sleeping room accommodations, or bathrooms used by the public or guests.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health, Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association, and Starn O'Toole Marcus & Fisher.

Your Committee finds that this measure will reduce the amount of harmful plastic waste in Hawaii while also making the visitor industry more sustainable.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the definition of "personal care product"; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Tourism that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 348, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 348, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Holt).

SCRep. 16 Water & Land on H.B. No. 309

The purpose of this measure is to establish a working group within the University of Hawai'i Sea Grant Program to develop an inventory of state-owned fishponds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Green Party of Hawai'i; Historic Hawai'i Foundation; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; Hawai'i Fishermen's Alliance for Conservation and Tradition, Inc.; Strata Farms; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that an inventory conducted in 1901 found approximately three hundred sixty loko i'a, or fishponds, in the State, with approximately ninety-nine in active use at the time. Your Committee further finds that since that survey, a range of factors have impacted loko i'a to varying degrees. While some loko i'a remain relatively intact, many have fallen into disrepair, are in ruins, or have been destroyed. Your Committee believes that in addition to preserving traditional Native Hawaiian culture and practices, loko i'a play a vital role in enhancing the State's ecological well-being and offer opportunities to expand food security and community-based resource management. This measure is intended to fulfill the State's responsibility as a steward of the land and ensure future generations can benefit from the opportunities loko i'a provide by developing a comprehensive inventory of loko i'a in the State, their condition, and their potential for restoration.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the inventory shall be of all fishponds on state land and shall include information on the function of each fishpond;
- (2) Specifying that the literature review shall include a review of Hawaiian language newspapers;
- (3) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$250,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 309, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 309, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Higher Education.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 17 Water & Land on H.B. No. 3

The purpose of this measure is to extend the deadline for the University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program to submit the North Shore Beach Management Plan to the Governor and Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program; Climate Resilience Collaborative; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that Act 226, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, required the University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program to submit a beach management plan for Oahu's North Shore by December 1, 2025. Your Committee believes that extending this deadline to December 1, 2026, will better enable the University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program to engage the community and develop a thorough and comprehensive beach management plan.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 3, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 3, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Higher Education.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 18 Water & Land on H.B. No. 505

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Red Hill Water Alliance Initiative (WAI) policy coordinator to coordinate WAI initiatives across state and county agencies and appropriate federal entities; and
- (2) Establish the Red Hill Remediation Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; University of Hawai'i System; Honolulu Board of Water Supply; Coalition Earth; Ka Lahui Hawai'i; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hui Malama Pono Hawaii; Mala Hanai Pua LLC; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; The Queens Court; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that the State has an affirmative duty to preserve and protect public trust resources, including water resources. Your Committee further finds that future access to clean drinking water on the island of Oahu has been seriously imperiled after fuel releases at the United States Navy's Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility contaminated the aquifer located beneath the facility.

As a response to the Red Hill crisis, representatives from the State and the City and County of Honolulu issued a unified statement and created the WAI working group to identify an approach to ensure clean water for current and future residents of Oahu. In November 2023, the WAI published a public, final report setting forth its findings and recommendations for the remediation needs for the future well-being of Oahu's aquifers and clean water sources, water distribution system, and the overall ecosystem, including springs, streams, and nearshore waters. While some of these recommendations can only be carried out by the federal government, other recommendations can be undertaken by the State or the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee believes that there should be no delay in taking steps to implement the WAI's recommendations that can be executed by the State and county. This measure is intended to protect the future of Oahu's clean water by establishing a WAI policy coordinator to ensure remediation efforts are appropriately coordinated between the State, City and County of Honolulu, and any appropriate federal entity.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 505, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 505, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 19 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1144

The purpose of this measure is to allow the Department of Land and Natural Resources to employ civil service and non-civil service professional and technical staff in its State Historic Preservation Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee finds that existing law requires the State Historic Preservation Program to employ professional and technical staff in compliance with the State's civil service requirement. Your Committee further finds that authorizing a civil service exemption for these employees will enable the State Historic Preservation Program to maintain competitive compensation with the private sector, retain staff, and fill vacancies.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Labor, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider whether to reprice and reclassify these positions as an alternative means of ensuring competitive compensation for these positions.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1144, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1144, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Labor.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 20 Water & Land on H.B. No. 29

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the counties to implement additional enforcement mechanisms to address severe public nuisances that remain unmitigated after the exhaustion of all other existing remedies.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Grassroot Institute of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that neglected properties often constitute public nuisances and can pose significant risks to public health, safety, and neighboring properties. Your Committee further finds that although the counties may initiate a non-judicial foreclosure for the collection of real property tax liens, there is no similar process when an administrative lien is placed on properties that become public nuisances. This measure is intended to extend the counties' authority to initiate non-judicial forecloses on neglected properties after the counties have exercised all other existing remedies.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring counties to remit all revenues from the sale of the property in excess of any unpaid civil fines to the property owner;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 29, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 29, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 21 Water & Land on H.B. No. 331

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an exemption from applicable county permit requirements for repetitive construction projects for facilities under the control of any state department or agency; and
- (2) Clarify that contracts for the construction, renovation, or repair of facilities under the control of the Department of Education, University of Hawai'i, or School Facilities Authority are exempt from county permitting requirements that related off-site improvements be made by the contracting government agency as a condition to the issuance of any permit.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; University of Hawai'i System; School Facilities Authority; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that most, but not all, counties exempt state agencies from county permitting requirements. Your Committee believes that aligning the county permitting exemptions for state agencies across all counties will accelerate the timeline for essential repairs and improvements and more efficiently address critical repair and maintenance and infrastructural needs across the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Defining "repetitive construction project";
- (2) Clarifying that county permitting exemptions do not apply to projects within a Special Flood Hazard Area;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 331, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 331, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 22 Water & Land on H.B. No. 306

The purpose of this measure is to establish a \$50 minimum and \$60,000 maximum fine for every violation of the State Water Code.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Green Party of Hawai'i; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Strata Farms LLC; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Honolulu Board of Water Supply; Department of Water Supply of the County of Hawai'i; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State has an affirmative duty to protect, control, and regulate the use of the State's water resources. Your Committee further finds that the current penalties in the State Water Code do not serve as a sufficient deterrent to prevent over-extraction or misuse of these resources. Your Committee believes that establishing minimum and maximum penalties for violations of the State Water Code, as intended by this measure, will help preserve water resources, protect vulnerable ecosystems, and ensure access to safe drinking water for residents and visitors in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Including failure to comply with standardized water audit requirements as a violation subject to a penalty;
- (2) Leaving the maximum penalty unspecified;
- (3) Establishing factors that must be considered by the Commission on Water Resource Management when imposing a penalty;
- (4) Reverting to existing statutory language that permits, rather than requires, the Commission to set, charge, and collect administrative fines;
- (5) Establishing an incremental increase of the maximum fine effective every five years over a twenty-year period beginning in 2035;
- (6) Inserting severability and savings clauses;
- (7) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 306, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 306, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto, Souza). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 23 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 47

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Division of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture to adopt, amend, and repeal rules to develop an assessment and approval process to import and move aquatic livestock in the State; and
- (2) Require and appropriate funds for the Division of Animal Industry to develop that process through a biological aquatic risk-based framework.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; and Hawaii Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's aquaculture industry makes significant contributions to the State's economy in diversified agriculture. By allocating resources toward the development of regulatory frameworks that prioritize sustainability and biosecurity, this measure ensures the protection of the State's local communities and natural resources while promoting growth in local aquaculture.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 47, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 47, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 24 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 781

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Waiahole water system for bond debt service and tunnel repair.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Agribusiness Development Corporation; Kunia Village Title Holding Corporation; Bayer; Hawaii Agriculture Research Center; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Crop Improvement Association; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Kunia Agriculture Park, LLC; Aloun Farm, Inc.; Larry Jeffs Farms, LLC; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Waiahole water system transports water from the windward side of Oahu to the leeward side of the island, serving approximately five thousand six hundred acres of land in central and leeward Oahu, of which approximately eighty-six percent is in active agricultural use at any given time. The current agricultural water rate for users of the Waiahole water system is more than double that of comparable area rates for agricultural water. These costs are passed on to consumers, resulting in higher food prices. Therefore, as the debt service fees continue to escalate and deferred maintenance repairs need to be addressed, it is critical to appropriate funds to the Agribusiness Development Corporation to fully pay off the bond debt service on the Waiahole water system and repair critical infrastructure.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriations to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$4,500,000 to pay the bond debt service on the Waiahole water system and \$2,000,000 for the repair of the adit 8 tunnel of the Waiahole water system.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 781, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 781, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 25 Tourism on H.B. No. 446

The purpose of this measure is to require the Hawaii Tourism Authority and School of Travel Industry Management at the University of Hawaii at Manoa to collaborate to actively plan for the design, construction, and operations and management of a state hotel.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General, Hawai'i Tourism Authority, School of Travel Industry Management at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association.

Your Committee finds that a state hotel could create workforce development opportunities for local residents and better allow the State to promote regenerative tourism for visitors.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Hawaii Tourism Authority and School of Travel Industry Management at the University of Hawaii at Manoa to jointly perform a study, rather than actively plan, for the design, construction or purchase, and operations and management of a state hotel;
- (2) Requiring a report on the study to be submitted to the Legislature prior to the Regular Session of 2027;
- (3) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it choose to deliberate on this measure, to consider appropriating \$150,000 for the study.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Tourism that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 446, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 446, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Higher Education.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Holt).

SCRep. 26 Health on H.B. No. 303

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend the definitions of "preceptor" and "volunteer-based supervised clinical training rotation" to improve accessibility for providers to receive income tax credits for acting as preceptors, including removing "primary care" from the criteria to qualify as a preceptor;
- (2) Add physician assistants, social workers, and licensed dietitians to the list of preceptors and in the definition of "eligible student";
- (3) Expand eligibility for the tax credit to include accredited residency programs that require preceptor support; and
- (4) Revise the membership of the Preceptor Credit Assurance Committee to include the Director of Health and residency programs with eligible students.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Corporate Board of Directors; University of Hawai'i System; Hawai'i State Center for Nursing; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawai'i Association of Professional Nurses; The Queen's Health Systems; Hawaii Medical Association; Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i; Hawai'i Academy of Physician Assistants; The Kahala Clinic for Children and Family; Hawai'i-American Nurses Association; Hawai'i Affiliate of the American College of Nurse-Midwives; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that there is a shortage of primary care providers in the State. Your Committee further finds that the healthcare preceptor income tax credit is intended to incentivize volunteer preceptors to offer professional instruction, training, and supervision to students and residents seeking careers as health care providers. However, only a small subset of providers meet the credit's eligibility requirements each year. Additionally, some classes of health care providers, such as licensed dietitians, physician assistants, and social workers, are statutorily ineligible for the tax credit. This measure is intended to increase eligibility for the tax credit by clarifying compensation limits for volunteer-based supervised clinical training rotations and expanding the definition of "preceptor" to include additional medical specialties.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 303, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 303, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 27 Health on H.B. No. 441

The purpose of this measure is to increase the cigarette tax and allocate the increase to be deposited into the Hawaii Cancer Research Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Health; University of Hawai'i Cancer Center; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hina Mauka; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; The Queen's Health Systems; Hawaii Medical Association; Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i; Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; The Friends of Kamalani and Lydgate Park; Hawaii COPD Coalition; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Cigar Association of America; Retail Merchants of Hawaii; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Department of Taxation; Tax Foundation; Taxpayers Protection Alliance; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that cigarette smoking remains the leading cause of preventable death nationally, and is linked to heart disease, cancer, and stroke. According to the United States Surgeon General, increasing the price of tobacco products is the single most effective way to reduce consumption. Your Committee further finds that the University of Hawai'i Cancer Center receives funding through revenues from the State's cigarette tax stamp. However, cigarette tax stamp revenues have been declining since 2015, resulting in fewer funds going to the Cancer Center. Your Committee believes that increasing taxes on cigarettes and little cigars, as proposed by this measure, will reduce tobacco consumption in the State and ensure the University of Hawai'i Cancer Center receives adequate funding to carry out its important work of building and launching strategic initiatives to combat cancer.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 441, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 441, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Higher Education.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 28 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 731

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize a physician, upon consultation with a minor patient who indicates that the minor was the victim of a sexual offense, with the consent of the minor patient, to perform customary and necessary examinations to obtain evidence of the sexual offense and may prescribe for and treat the patient for any immediate condition caused by the sexual offense; and
- (2) Provide that the consent of the parent, parents, or legal guardian of a minor offender who has been committed to the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facilities shall not be necessary in order to authorize hospital, medical, mental health, dental, emergency health, or emergency surgical care.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Youth Services; Hawai'i Association of Professional Nurses; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from The Sex Abuse Treatment Center. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Hawai'i State Center for Nursing; and SAFE Team Maui County.

Your Committee finds that minors who are victims of sexual offenses require access to necessary and timely trauma-informed care. By safeguarding minors' rights and streamlining access to specialized care, such as sexual assault forensic examinations, this measure strengthens Hawaii's ability to address the needs of vulnerable youth and reduce the barriers to justice and recovery.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that a licensed health care provider properly trained in the medical forensic care of a patient who has experienced sexual assault or abuse, rather than a physician, may perform the customary and necessary examinations under this measure;
- (2) Clarifies provisions related to civil and criminal liability for health care providers;
- (3) Deleting language regarding parental or guardian consent for treatment of minors in the custody of the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facilities, as the Director of the Office of Youth Services already has the power to consent to medical and other health care services for youth in custody;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 731, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 731, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 29 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 129

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit the assessment of any fees, fines, or court costs against a person who is adjudicated for an offense committed while the person was a minor under the age of eighteen, or against the person's parent or guardian;
- (2) Limit court-ordered community service for a minor to no more than seventy-two hours; and
- (3) Repeal certain penalties imposed on parents, guardians, or other persons associated with unaccompanied children in streets and unmarried minors in dance halls.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Hawai'i Juvenile Justice State Advisory Council; Mālama Mākuā; American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Friends of Restorative Justice; Opportunity For Youth Action Hawai'i; Nā 'Ōpio Waiwai; Debt Free Justice Hawai'i; Community Alliance on Prisons; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Kaua'i. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary; Department of the Attorney General; and Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that charging fees, fines, and court costs to youth is a harmful and ineffective accountability practice, disproportionately affecting Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander minors in Hawaii. A report by the Administrative Director of the Courts revealed that only seventeen percent of fines ordered against minors in the past five years have been paid, highlighting the impracticality of this approach. Your Committee further finds that assessing fines in juvenile justice proceedings has not been shown to rehabilitate, deter, or effectively punish delinquent youth. With many states taking steps to end fees and fines in juvenile justice cases, this measure ensures that youth are not burdened by financial penalties for mistakes made during their formative years.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the removal of the responsibility of any financial reimbursement from a minor does not preclude the courts from ordering restitution to a victim when applicable;
- (2) Clarifying provisions to allow the principal of a public school to use their discretion in determining whether a student can repair damage caused by vandalism;
- (3) Restoring statutory language that requires a minor to pay for the actual cost of having the damaged property repaired or replaced in cases involving graffiti;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 129, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 129, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 30 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 499

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a refundable income tax credit for qualified taxpayers that incur qualified expenses in connection with activities that enhance the resiliency of the food and beverage supply chain; and
- (2) Require the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to establish expedited permitting processes for certain food and beverage supply chain projects.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Hawaii Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; and Hawai'i Foodbank. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the State is vulnerable to disruptions caused by natural disasters, which could leave residents with limited access to food and essential supplies for extended periods. Despite the State's goal of doubling local food production by 2030, small businesses engaged in food and beverage production, distribution, and retailing face significant challenges. This measure would provide incentives for improving food and beverage supply chain activities and create an environment where local businesses could expand and succeed.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that at least twenty-five percent of the total amount of tax credits per year shall be reserved for small-scale producers and community-based organizations;
- (2) Requiring the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to establish reporting metrics;
- (3) Clarifying the definition of "qualified taxpayer";
- (4) Clarifying rulemaking responsibility for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, rather than the Department of Taxation;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriate maximum amount of tax credits allowed per taxpayer per year, as the measure includes an aggregate \$2,000,000 cap for all qualified taxpayers in any taxable year, and the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism's request for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) position to facilitate the tax credit.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 499, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 499, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 31 Culture & Arts on H.B. No. 307

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of special number plates to recognize restoration and preservation efforts on Kaho'olawe Island by the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana, Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission, and other community members.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission; Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that January 4, 2026, marks the fiftieth anniversary of the first successful landing on Kaho'olawe by nine courageous individuals, known as the "Kaho'olawe 9", in support of Native Hawaiian sovereignty and self-determination, initiating an island wide movement to "Stop the Bombing" and the United States' military use of the island of Kaho'olawe. In subsequent years, the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana and Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission were formed and worked with the Department of Land and Natural Resources to undertake the stewardship of the island to restore vital cultural practices and preserve Kaho'olawe's natural ecosystem. Your Committee finds it appropriate to honor Kaho'olawe with a special name plate to support the ongoing efforts of restoration and preservation of the land and culture.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 307, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 307, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 32 Public Safety/Water & Land on H.B. No. 113

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require certain owners and others with charge of or control over properties located in hazardous fire areas to maintain effective firebreaks within thirty feet of the property and to practice other fire prevention activities; and
- (2) Establish the Community Fuels Reduction Project to be administered by the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; a member of the Kaua'i County Council; Hawai'i Climate Advisory Team; Wildfire Safety Advocates of Waikoloa; and three individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Education; State Fire Council; Kamehameha Schools; Life of the Land; and one individual.

Your Committees find that because of Hawaii's many areas of fire vulnerability, it is imperative for the State to be aggressive in public and private efforts to control burnable fuel overgrowth and create effective firebreaks.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting part I, which required certain owners and others with charge of or control over properties located in hazardous fire areas to maintain effective firebreaks within thirty feet of the property and to practice other fire prevention activities;
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Public Safety and Water & Land that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 113, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 113, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.
Public Safety: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).
Water & Land: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 33 Health on H.B. No. 302

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal the requirement that a provider-patient relationship be established in person for purposes of obtaining a certification for medical cannabis; and
- (2) Allow applicants or primary caregivers to temporarily purchase medical cannabis after the submission of the applicant's certification form.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Cannabis Industry Association; Aloha Green Apothecary; Cure Oahu; Noa Botanicals; and Big Island Grown Dispensaries. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Health; and Akamai Cannabis Consulting.

Your Committee finds that access for qualifying patients and primary caregivers to medical cannabis remains challenging due to limited access to medical providers, delays in obtaining authorizations for access to enter and purchase medical cannabis from licensed medical cannabis dispensaries, and a thriving illicit market. Your Committee further finds that between August 2021 and November 2024, the number of registered card-holding patients in Hawaii decreased by fifteen percent, indicating that qualifying patients are shifting away from licensed medical cannabis dispensaries and instead obtaining their medical cannabis from elsewhere. Your Committee believes that reducing some of the administrative barriers to accessing medical cannabis, as intended by this measure, will support the State's medical cannabis program and encourage qualifying patients to access medical cannabis in a manner that ensures patient safety, product safety, and public safety.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 302, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 302, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 34 Health on H.B. No. 557

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Update the State's laws on telehealth services to conform with federal Medicare regulations;
- (2) Require the Insurance Commissioner to report to the Legislature on reimbursements claimed in the previous year for certain telehealth services; and
- (3) Repeal the sunset date of Act 107, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; State Health Planning and Development Agency; University of Hawai'i at Mānoa John A. Burns School of Medicine; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawai'i Pacific Health; OhanaPsych; Hawai'i Psychological Association; Hawaii Counselors Association; The Hawaiian Islands Association for Marriage and Family Therapy; National Association of Social Workers

Hawai'i Chapter; AARP Hawai'i; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; AlohaCare; The Queen's Health Systems; Alzheimer's Association Hawaii Chapter; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Medical Service Association and Hawaii Association of Health Plans. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services and Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committee finds that the State's rural and underprivileged communities are often cut off from receiving essential health care services through telehealth because they lack the broadband coverage necessary to access this care. Your Committee further finds that the use of standard telephone contact in telehealth during the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated the effectiveness of this tool as a mode of essential health care delivery, particularly for residents living in rural, isolated, or underprivileged communities. Your Committee recognizes the concerns raised in testimony that the existing Medicare flexibility for expanded audio-only modalities is set to expire on March 31, 2025. Your Committee further recognizes the concerns that while Medicare guidelines do allow for the use of audio-only modalities for all services, these guidelines must be considered in parallel with the telehealth coverage provisions of section 1834(m) of the Social Security Act, which limits the kinds of health care services that can be provided in the home to mental health services, substance use disorder services, and end-stage renal dialysis.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the definition of "interactive telecommunications system" by:
 - (A) Restricting the provision of two-way, real-time, audio-only communication technology between a patient and distant site health care provider for services furnished for the purposes of diagnosis, evaluation, or treatment of a mental health disorder; and
 - (B) Requiring health care providers to append a modifier designated by the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services to any claim for two-way, real-time audio-only communications technology to verify that the requirements for audio-only telehealth services have been met;
- (2) Removing the requirement that the Insurance Commissioner include the total number of claims for audio-only telehealth services not related to mental health from the required annual report to the Legislature; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 557, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 557, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Alcos), None. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 35 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 501

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an Agricultural Enforcement Program within the Department of Law Enforcement;
- (2) Establish the Agricultural Enforcement Special Fund; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for and establish positions within the Agricultural Enforcement Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Palani Ranch Company, Inc.; Hawaiian Host Group; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; and nine individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that agricultural theft and vandalism are impediments to running a successful and profitable farming operation and are harmful to consumers and residents. Agricultural theft and other crimes occurring on agricultural lands have become commonplace, as rural locations of ranches and farms can make it challenging for law enforcement agencies to timely respond to reports. Your Committee further finds that establishing an Agricultural Enforcement Program will lead to stronger enforcement and greater deterrence of crimes on agricultural lands, thereby increasing public safety.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Assistant Chief, rather than the Director of Law Enforcement, shall determine certain duties and responsibilities to be carried out by state law enforcement officers in the Agricultural Enforcement Program;
- (2) Changing the numbers of various positions to be established within the Agricultural Enforcement Program to unspecified numbers;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) Assistant Chief position; eight full-time equivalent (8.0 FTE) State Law Enforcement Investigator positions, with two positions for each county; and thirty-six full-time equivalent (36.0 FTE) Uniformed State Law Enforcement Officer positions for patrol functions, with the counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui having eight positions each and the City and County of Honolulu having twelve positions.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 501, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 501, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 36 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 643

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish short-term management initiatives for the Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Response Program; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to support the Program's activities and positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Agriculture; University of Hawai'i System; Hawaii Invasive Species Council; two members of the Kauai County Council; Department of Agriculture of the County of Maui; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawaii; Office of Economic Development of the County of Kauai; Coordinating Group on Alien

Pest Species; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; O'ahu Invasive Species Committee; Kauai Invasive Species Committee; Big Island Invasive Species Committee; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Malama Aina Landscape and Masonry Design, LLC; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the coconut rhinoceros beetle can have devastating impacts on palm species that are foundational to the State's agricultural economy, cultural heritage, and ecosystems. Your Committee further finds that the Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Response Program, a coordinated partnership among the University of Hawaii, United States Department of Agriculture, Hawaii Department of Agriculture, and other key organizations, investigates new control methods and best practices to combat the coconut rhinoceros beetle. This measure ensures that the program incorporates strategic short-term management initiatives and has sufficient funding and personnel.

Your Committee notes that the Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Response Program has been primarily funded by the federal government and that the program may or may not receive continued funding later this year if continued funding is not reapproved.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Including the island of Kauai among the islands to be served by the Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Response Program;
- (2) Clarifying that the University of Hawaii shall perform canine inspections in coordination with the Department of Agriculture on high-risk cargo moving between islands;
- (3) Deleting language related to subsidizing container fumigation of high-risk materials traveling between islands;
- (4) Changing the appropriation allocations to unspecified amounts;
- (5) Appropriating an unspecified amount for three drones to be used on Hawaii island and the islands of Maui and Kauai;
- (6) Specifying the types of positions being established for biocontrol research;
- (7) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation allocation amount of \$15,000 for training tree trimmers, arborists, and the landscaping industry; \$160,000 for subsidizing canopy treatments for residential palm owners; \$25,000 for extending deployment of coconut rhinoceros beetle response teams to Hawaii island and the islands of Maui, Molokai, Kauai, and Lanai; \$250,000 for canine inspections for high-risk cargo moving between islands; \$60,000 for drones; and \$200,000 for one Technician position and two Graduate Student positions for biocontrol research.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 643, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 643, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Higher Education.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 37 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 452

The purpose of this measure is to require and appropriate funds for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to develop and implement a grant program to expand the meat processing capacity in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committee finds that there is a need for increased meat processing capacity in the State, as smaller ranchers and hunters compete for limited capacity, resulting in the loss of potential use of wild game meat. Additionally, axis deer, an invasive species that poses a continuing threat to Hawaii's environment, and other wild game could provide significant quantities of meat as a protein source for non-profit food distribution centers. This measure would strengthen Hawaii's food self-sufficiency by expanding the meat processing capacity of the State through a grant program and allowing for the potential use of wild game meat by non-profit food distribution services.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language that specifies standards for the issuance of grants under the program;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee requests your Committee on Economic Development & Technology, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider establishing and appropriating funds for a meat processing mobile or brick-and-mortar facility on a rural island, Hawaii island, or the island of Maui, rather than establishing a grant program.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 452, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 452, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 38 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 496

The purpose of this measure is to impose certain labeling requirements for māmaki tea sold in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture and Hawai'i Farm Bureau.

Your Committee finds that māmaki is a plant that is endemic to Hawaii and used to make an herbal tea. Because māmaki tea is a growing agricultural commodity, the implementation of labeling requirements would ensure the viability of Hawaii-grown māmaki tea. This measure protects Hawaii-grown

māmaki tea by establishing certain labeling requirements for māmaki tea products sold in the State to ensure that labels purporting that all or a portion of the māmaki tea was grown in Hawaii are true and accurate.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Prohibiting the use of certain words that can be used on the label of a consumer package that contains or includes tea or dried leaves from the plant *Pipturus albidus*, unless one hundred percent of the tea or dried leaves were grown in the State;
- (2) Inserting language that appropriates an unspecified amount for staff positions for the Department of Agriculture to support enforcement of labeling regulations;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$65,000 for one full-time equivalent position for the Department of Agriculture.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 496, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 496, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 39 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 774

The purpose of this measure is to establish a food and product innovation network within the Agribusiness Development Corporation to enable businesses to scale up new products from research and development to manufacturing and commercialization.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; University of Hawai'i System; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; and Hawaii Food Industry Association.

Your Committee finds that establishing a food and product innovation network is critical to meeting the State's agricultural and economic diversification goals. Additionally, a network of open-access food and value-added product development facilities in Hawaii would support the production of new value-added products, which would allow locally-produced value-added goods to compete with imported products. This measure strengthens the local economy by capitalizing on the Hawaii brand and supporting local producers in expanding into new export markets.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 774, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 774, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5; Ayes with Reservations (Perruso). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 40 Education on H.B. No. 110

The purpose of this measure is to modify certain benchmark goals and timelines for the Department of Education to purchase a certain amount of fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Green Party of Hawai'i; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; Strata Farms LLC; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that supporting local agriculture and strengthening local food systems can improve the resilience of the State's economy, environment, culture, and public health. To provide support for local farmers and guarantee that revenue derived from local produce remains in the State and feeds local people, Act 175, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, was enacted, which established a programmatic goal for the Department of Education to provide a minimum of thirty percent locally sourced food in Hawaii public school meals by 2030. In addition, the enactment of Act 176, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, Act 144, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, established benchmarks ensuring a certain percentage of produce that is purchased by the Department of Education, Department of Health, Department of Public Safety, Department of Defense, and University of Hawaii System is locally grown.

Your Committee further finds that the existing goals set different standards for various state departments. Specifically, the programmatic goal for the Department of Education to locally source at least thirty percent of food served in public schools by 2030 is higher than other state departments. Your Committee believes that the benchmark goals for certain departments should be assessed on a more frequent basis than the Department of Education. This measure will resolve some of the discrepancies between the locally sourced food benchmarks for the Department of Education and those of other state entities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 110, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 110, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 41 Education on H.B. No. 1088

The purpose of this measure is to exempt housing developed by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands from school impact fees.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and School Facilities Authority. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands leases some of its lands for educational facilities at minimal to no cost. Additionally, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands does consider the need for educational facilities when developing its affordable housing plan. Your Committee believes that exempting housing developed by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands from school impact fees will allow for more homes to be developed and thus benefiting more native Hawaiian beneficiaries.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1088, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1088, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 42 Education on H.B. No. 628

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Department of Education to establish a program to award high school diplomas to persons who did not receive a high school diploma as a result of compulsory or voluntary induction into active service in the armed services of the United States and any person whose high school education was interrupted due to wartime practices during World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that compulsory induction into active service in the Armed Services of the United States and other wartime practices caused individuals to defer their educational goals. Your Committee further finds that the establishment of a program to award high school diplomas to these individuals allows them to receive recognition and gratitude from the State for their wartime sacrifices to their country.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 628, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 628, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Public Safety.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 43 Education on H.B. No. 497

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Transfer the Hawaii Child Nutrition Programs Agency from the Department of Education to the Department of Agriculture; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for grants to be administered by the Hawaii Child Nutrition Programs Agency.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Hawai'i Youth Food Council; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Education; and Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that the Hawaii Child Nutrition Programs is the state agency link between the United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service and local program operators and plays a critical role in ensuring the State meets its programmatic goal of providing at least thirty percent locally grown food in the State's public schools by 2030. Currently, the Hawaii Child Nutrition Programs is attached to the Department of Education under the Board of Education. Your Committee finds that it would be more appropriate for the Hawaii Child Nutrition Programs to be independent from the Department of Education to allow the Hawaii Child Nutrition Programs greater independence, efficiency, and flexibility in conducting compliance audits and fiscal reviews.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language establishing standards for the distribution of the funds appropriated in this measure as grants under the program administered by the Hawaii Child Nutrition Programs Agency;
- (2) Amending the preamble;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 497, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 497, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 44 Education on H.B. No. 1074

The purpose of this measure is to require the School Facilities Authority to consult with the Department of Education and other impacted departments or agencies prior to the conveyance of ownership rights or lease of lands owned or occupied by the Department of Education or other impacted departments or agencies to the School Facilities Authority.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the School Facilities Authority.

Your Committee finds that requiring consultation with the Department of Education and other impacted departments or agencies by the School Facilities Authority (Authority) prior to any conveyance of ownership rights or lease of lands to the Authority will promote a practical, balanced, and cooperative approach to state land management and ensure that the Authority's land use decisions align with the Department of Education's operational and strategic goals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the requirement that the Department of Education's transfer of land be based upon terms and conditions as may be agreed to by the parties;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1074, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1074, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 45 Education on H.B. No. 328

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Education to authorize and facilitate complex areas or individual department schools to form their own Farm to School Meal Programs; and
- (2) Authorize the Department of Education to establish a plant-based meal program to provide a plant-based meal as an option under the school meals program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Green Party of Hawai'i; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Down to Earth Organic and Natural; 350Hawaii.org; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; Chamber of Sustainable Commerce; Hawai'i Youth Food Council; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; Strata Farms LLC; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that setting a target goal of food served in public schools to consist of locally sourced products is of great benefit for the health of Hawaii's students. Establishing a partnership between schools and nonprofit organizations or private entities to meet these target goals will increase student meal participation, reduce food waste, increase cost savings, and significantly increase the amount of locally sourced food served in school cafeterias. Additionally, offering plant-based meals in public schools can also greatly increase demand for local greens and encourage students to engage in healthy nutrition. This measure promotes local farming jobs and agriculture through incentives for public schools and expanding meal options for students.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have authorized the Department of Education to accept public or private donations or grants from individuals and other agencies to support the Farm to School Meal Programs;
- (2) Inserting language that authorizes public schools to accept donations or contributions from individuals, nonprofit organizations, or private entities to support the farm to school meal program, subject to approval of the Superintendent of Education;
- (3) Clarifying the applicability of the farm to school programs to the Department of Education and public schools;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 328, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 328, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 46 Education on H.B. No. 903

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Department of Education to stock bronchodilators for emergency use during respiratory distress;
- (2) Authorize certain employees of a school and Department of Education personnel to volunteer to administer certain medication in emergency situations, under certain conditions; and
- (3) Amend prescription drug labeling requirements to include certain information related to a school, if applicable.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; University of Hawai'i at Mānoa School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene; Hawai'i State Center for Nursing; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawai'i State Rural Health Association; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i Association of Professional Nurses; Hawaii Medical Association; Hawaii Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; Hawai'i–American Nurses Association; American Lung Association; AlohaCare; and eight individuals. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the Department of Education. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and one individual.

Your Committee finds that asthma is a significant concern for children in the State, made worse by unique factors like vog and allergens. Without immediate treatment, asthma attacks can escalate, endangering lives and leading to costly emergency care. Your Committee believes that stocking schools with bronchodilators and training staff to recognize and respond to asthma symptoms and other illnesses will ensure timely care for Hawaii's youth.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the administration of stock bronchodilator by authorized employees or agents to a student shall not require or imply any diagnosis, or be interpreted as the practice of medicine, nursing, or other licensed professional activity;
- (2) Clarifying the scope of personnel who are authorized to administer certain medication in emergency situations, under certain conditions;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and

(4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 903, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 903, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Health.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 47 Education on H.B. No. 323

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for the Teacher Housing Assistance Program to provide housing vouchers to certain eligible teachers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Public Charter School Commission; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education; Department of the Attorney General; and Hawaii Government Employees Association AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee finds that there is a severe shortage of qualified teachers in the State. Your Committee believes that major contributing factors to this shortage are the State's high cost of living and lack of affordable housing. Your Committee believes that this measure will alleviate the financial burden on teachers in obtaining housing by providing housing vouchers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language establishing standards for the distribution of the funds appropriated in this measure as housing vouchers under the Teacher Housing Assistance Program;
- (2) Changing the maximum amount for a housing voucher to an unspecified amount;
- (3) Specifying that teachers who are eligible for participation in the Teacher Housing Assistance Program include teachers employed by a charter school;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider \$500 per month as the maximum amount for a housing voucher under the Teacher Housing Assistance Program.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 323, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 323, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Housing.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 48 Education on H.B. No. 841

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize a retirant to be rehired as a teacher or administrator in difficult-to-fill positions identified by the Department of Education;
- (2) Require retirants rehired as teachers or administrators in teacher shortage areas or in difficult-to-fill positions to be paid at least the minimum salary for a teacher with equivalent experience and qualifications;
- (3) Prohibit retirants rehired as teachers or administrators in teacher shortage areas or in difficult-to-fill positions from receiving additional employment benefits; and
- (4) Require the Department of Education to adopt rules to identify teacher shortage areas and difficult-to-fill positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Teachers Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that the State has been experiencing a shortage in teachers and administrators for difficult-to-fill positions under the Department of Education, making it very challenging to provide a quality education for Hawaii's students. Your Committee believes that retirants are an asset that can be used to take on difficult-to-fill positions and positions in teacher shortage areas.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Repealing statutory language prohibiting retirants to be rehired as teachers or administrators within twelve calendar months of leaving employment with the State or a county;
- (2) Deleting language which would have required retirants rehired as teachers or administrators to be paid at least the minimum salary for a teacher with equivalent experience and qualifications;
- (3) Clarifying that a retirant may be rehired as a teacher or an administrator in a hard-to-fill position, rather than difficult-to-fill position, identified by the Department of Education;
- (4) Specifying that the Department of Education shall adopt rules to identify teacher shortage areas and hard-to-fill positions;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Labor, should it deliberate on this measure, to examine the prohibition on retirants rehired as a teacher or an administrator from receiving additional employment benefits afforded to public service employees under chapter 78, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as required by this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 841, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 841, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Labor.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 49 Education on H.B. No. 245

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require and appropriate funds for the Department of Education, in collaboration with the Department of Health, to develop statewide guidelines related to managing heat exposure to protect students' health during outdoor activities; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for wet-bulb globe temperature thermometers for all public and charter schools statewide.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities; State Public Charter School Commission; Hawai'i Climate Change and Health Working Group; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Public Health Association; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education; and Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii has experienced rising air temperatures, with annual peak averages consistently breaking record highs. Exercising in hot and humid weather can be dangerous, as the body's ability to cool itself through sweating becomes less effective under humid conditions. When sweat cannot evaporate efficiently due to high moisture levels in the air, the risk of heat-related illnesses increases.

Your Committee further finds that shade can significantly reduce the risk of heat-related illnesses by providing cooler spaces for students to exercise, train, and play. Expanding shaded areas on school campuses and properties is critical for creating safer environments during outdoor activities. Additionally, wet-bulb globe temperature measurements are the gold standard for assessing heat stress. As wet-bulb globe thermometers are relatively affordable for schools and athletic departments to acquire and use, the purchase of wet-bulb globe thermometers will serve as a practical tool for ensuring safer outdoor activities.

Your Committee notes that the Department of Education needs time to examine its current practices of managing heat exposure in schools and the timeline and costs of implementing the guidelines as required by this measure.

Your Committee has accordingly amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language which would have:
 - (A) Required and appropriated funds for the Department of Education to develop statewide guidelines related to managing heat exposure to protect students' health during outdoor activities; and
 - (B) Appropriated funds for wet-bulb globe temperature thermometers for all public and charter schools statewide;
- (2) Inserting language that requires the Department of Education, in collaboration with the Department of Health and State Public Charter School Commission, to conduct a study on the current practices of managing heat exposure in state public and charter schools to protect students' health during outdoor activities and to develop a plan if the current practices are insufficient in managing heat exposure;
- (3) Amending the preamble to reflect the measure's amended purpose;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 245, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 245, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Health.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 50 Housing on H.B. No. 606

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Extend the Act 279 Special Fund to June 30, 2028;
- (2) Deposit funds into the Act 279 Special Fund and appropriate funds out of the Special Fund for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to eliminate its waitlist; and
- (3) Require the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to submit a strategic plan to the Legislature detailing the anticipated uses of the funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Kupa'a Lāhui Alliance; Hoomana Pono, LLC; LIMBY Hawai'i; and eight individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands continues to make progress regarding the encumbrance of funds, expenditure of funds, and delivery of lots pursuant to Act 279, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022 (Act 279). Your Committee further finds that this measure will ensure that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands has adequate time to encumber and expend the necessary Act 279 funds and will secure additional funds that will allow the Department to continue to address its applicant waiting list.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriations to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$600,000,000 to be deposited into and appropriated out of the Act 279 Special Fund.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 606, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 606, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 51 Housing on H.B. No. 1086

The purpose of this measure is to exempt any development of homestead lots or housing for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands from general excise and use taxes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Gentry Homes, Ltd; LIMBY Hawai'i; and Hoomana Pono, LLC. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands has several projects funded via capital improvement projects or through Act 279, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, that are underway or in the pipeline for construction. Your Committee further finds that this measure could provide a significant sum of general excise tax cost savings for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands that could be utilized to develop more homestead lots.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1086, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1086, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 52 Housing on H.B. No. 1408

The purpose of this measure is to allow the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to utilize the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund as collateral when the Department acts as an eligible borrower for a loan agreement under section 184A of the federal Housing and Community Development Act of 1992, as amended.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Hoomana Pono, LLC; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that Congress established the Section 184A Native Hawaiian Housing Loan Guarantee Program to provide access to sources of private financing on Hawaii Home Lands. The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is an eligible borrower under the program and can use these funds to develop rental housing or build single-family homes. However, the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920, as amended, limits what can be used as collateral to secure loans made by government agencies or private lending institutions. This measure therefore authorizes the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to utilize monies in the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund for collateral, which will help the Department to secure private financing to develop housing for native Hawaiian beneficiaries.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriations to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$75,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1408, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1408, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 53 Housing on H.B. No. 740

The purpose of this measure is to establish an Accessory Dwelling Unit Financing and Deed Restriction Program under the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; one member of the Maui County Council; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Hawai'i YIMBY; Holomua Collaborative; Housing Hawai'i's Future; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Title Guaranty Hawaii; Mana Up; Hawai'i Gas; HPM Building Supply; aio; Tori Richard, Ltd.; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Hawai'i Association of REALTORS.

Your Committee finds that accessory dwelling units are an innovative way to help alleviate the severe lack of housing for Hawaii residents. Despite this, the upfront costs for designing and permitting are barriers for many homeowners to develop an accessory dwelling unit. This measure offers a practical solution to create immediate housing opportunities through ensuring long-term affordability through deed restrictions, thereby preserving these units for Hawaii's workforce.

Your Committee notes that the intent of the Legislature with this measure is for the amount paid to the property owner to be the market rate for a deed restriction. Ideally, through a negotiation process between the county and the property owner, the rate will be high enough to incentivize a property owner to sell a deed restriction, while low enough that it remains an effective use of government funds. It is also the intent of your Committee to not subject any instruments by which a deed restriction is placed on a dwelling unit under the Accessory Dwelling Unit Financing and Deed Restriction Program (Program) to the conveyance tax.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Authorizing the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to allocate an annual lump sum, to be determined by the Corporation, rather than requiring the counties to apply for a specific minimum amount;
- (2) Prohibiting the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation from distributing funds under the Program solely based on the population size of a county;

- (3) Clarifying that for a planned community, a deed restriction placed and owned by a county may be secondary only to conditions, covenants, and restrictions with a requisite first position;
- (4) Deleting language that would have required a retiree or an individual with a disability to have worked for ten consecutive years and five consecutive years, respectively, in the county or State, to qualify as an owner-occupant under the Program;
- (5) Exempting any contract entered into by a county under the Program from the Procurement Code;
- (6) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee also notes that while language that could have been construed as a durational requirement for a retiree or an individual with a disability was removed from this measure, your Committee is working with the Department of the Attorney General on language that can withstand constitutional scrutiny to ensure that bona fide residents of the State can benefit from the Accessory Dwelling Unit Financing and Deed Restriction Program.

Your Committee further notes that the Department of Taxation requested in its testimony that should this measure pass the Legislature, an effective date of January 1, 2026 be included, to allow the Department sufficient time to make changes necessary for the implementation of the new conveyance tax exemption.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 740, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 740, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 2 (Muraoka, Pierick). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 54 Housing on H.B. No. 739

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Kamaaina Homes Program to provide funding to the counties to purchase voluntary deed restrictions from eligible homeowners or homebuyers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Wall to Wall Studios; Hawai'i YIMBY; Holomua Collaborative; Maui Tomorrow Foundation; Kobayashi Group; Housing Hawai'i's Future; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Title Guaranty Hawaii; Mana Up; Hawai'i Gas; HPM Building Supply; aio; Tori Richard, Ltd; Maui Chamber of Commerce; LIMBY Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Department of the Attorney General; and Hawai'i Association of REALTORS.

Your Committee finds that housing affordability challenges are among the most pressing issues in the State. With median home prices now exceeding \$800,000, homeownership has become unattainable for many local families, forcing many residents to leave Hawaii in search of affordable living options elsewhere. Your Committee further finds that the resulting outmigration not only diminishes the State's workforce, but also erodes the cultural fabric and sense of community that make Hawaii unique. This measure builds on a successful model that works with homeowners to ensure that residents have access to housing in the State.

Your Committee notes that the intent of the Legislature with this measure is for the amount paid to the property owner to be the market rate for a deed restriction. Ideally, through a negotiation process between the county and the property owner, the rate will be high enough to incentivize a property owner to sell a deed restriction, while low enough that it remains an effective use of government funds. It is also the intent of your Committee to not subject any instruments by which a deed restriction is placed on a dwelling unit under the Kamaaina Homes Program to the conveyance tax.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Authorizing the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to allocate an annual lump sum, to be determined by the Corporation, rather than requiring the counties to apply for a specific minimum amount;
- (2) Prohibiting the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation from distributing funds under the Kamaaina Homes Program solely based on the population size of a county;
- (3) Clarifying that for a planned community, a deed restriction placed and owned by a county may be secondary only to conditions, covenants, and restrictions with a requisite first position;
- (4) Deleting language that would have required a retiree or an individual with a disability to have worked for ten consecutive years and five consecutive years, respectively, in the county or State, to qualify as an owner-occupant under the Program;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee also notes that while language that could have been construed as a durational residency requirement for a retiree or an individual with a disability was removed from this measure, your Committee is working with the Department of the Attorney General on language that can withstand constitutional scrutiny to ensure that bona fide residents of the State can benefit from the Kamaaina Homes Program.

Your Committee further notes that the Department of Taxation requested in its testimony that should this measure pass the Legislature, an effective date of January 1, 2026 be included, to allow the Department sufficient time to make changes necessary for the implementation of the new conveyance tax exemption.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 739, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 739, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 1 (Muraoka). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 55 Water & Land on H.B. No. 175

The purpose of this measure is to require owners, lessees, or managers of real property to maintain their property and establish penalties for failure to do so.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one member of the Kaua'i County Council and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; and Maui Chamber of Commerce.

Your Committee finds that neglected properties create environmental hazards, including serving as breeding grounds for invasive species and raising the risk for wildfires. Your Committee believes that property owners and lessees have a duty to mitigate these risks by taking steps to prevent properties from falling into neglect. This measure is intended to protect the State's ecosystem and reduce the risk of wildfires by requiring owners and lessees to maintain their properties.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing property managers from the list of persons subject to the requirements of this measure;
- (2) Clarifying the property management requirements for preventing the proliferation of invasive species;
- (3) Requiring the Department of Agriculture, rather than Department of Land and Natural Resources and Department of Health, to establish rules relating to inspection, enforcement, and the collection of fines and restricting the purview of the Department of Agriculture to violations relating to the proliferation of invasive species;
- (4) Requiring the Office of the State Fire Marshal to establish rules relating to inspection, enforcement, and collection of fines for violations relating to the prevention of wildfires and other public safety hazards and authorizing the Office to delegate the inspection, enforcement, appeal, and collection of fines to the county fire departments;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 175, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 175, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 56 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 874

The purpose of this measure is to protect the safety, morals, health, and well-being of child performers who work or reside in the State by:

- (1) Requiring a parent or legal guardian of a minor in theatrical employment to establish a trust account for the minor;
- (2) Requiring the employer of a minor in theatrical employment to deposit a portion of the minor's earnings into the trust account until the minor becomes an adult or is emancipated; and
- (3) Clarifying that theatrical employment, as used in the State's child labor law, includes gainful occupation as a social media influencer.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from SAG-AFTRA Hawaii Local, AFL-CIO; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; Hawaii Teamsters and Allied Workers, Local 996; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Your Committee finds that child performers contribute significantly to the entertainment industry, yet without proper financial protections, they risk losing the earnings they work hard to achieve. To prevent the financial exploitation of child performers in the State, this measure provides certain protections and safeguards to ensure that young performers' earnings are protected, promoting their financial security and well-being.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the misappropriation or fraudulent use of funds by a parent or legal guardian is a breach of fiduciary duty subject to penalties;
- (2) Adding a savings clause;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 874, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 874, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Labor.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 57 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 241

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Human Services to:

- (1) Establish a Child Care Classroom Contracts Pilot Program to contract directly with child care center providers in licensed infant and toddler child care centers and group child care centers that meet certain criteria; and
- (2) Submit annual reports to the Legislature on the pilot program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services; American Association of University Women of Hawaii; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Executive Office on Early Learning.

Your Committee finds that access to affordable child care is essential for working families in the State, yet many child care center providers face financial instability due to fluctuating enrollment numbers. Your Committee further finds that child care providers that depend on tuition-based funding are vulnerable to disruptions and potential closures, impacting families and providers. This measure creates a more stable funding model by directly subsidizing classrooms in licensed infant and toddler child care centers and group child care centers, ensuring that the State continues to invest in keiki and working families.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying additional requirements for child care centers to be eligible for the pilot program;
- (2) Changing the minimum number of required licensed group child care centers in the pilot program from two to one per county;
- (3) Clarifying the responsibilities of the Department of Human Services regarding monitoring seat utilization and contract modification;

- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 241, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 241, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Education.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 58 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 880

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Human Resources Development to reclassify certain positions within the Early Childhood Services Unit of the Department of Health Early Intervention Section; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the reclassification of certain positions and establishment of mental health specialist positions within the Early Childhood Services Unit of the Department of Health Early Intervention Section.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Hawai'i Early Intervention Coordinating Council; Wai'anae Coast Early Childhood Services; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Association for Infant Mental Health in Hawai'i; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; and nine individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii continues to face significant challenges in providing essential services for children with special needs under the age of three, largely due to high vacancy rates among early intervention providers. The shortage of specialists affects infant and toddler development and the State's ability to comply with federal mandates. This measure strengthens the State's capacity to meet early childhood developmental and mental health needs and addresses recruitment and retention issues that are critical to ensuring that children receive the essential services they need.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriations to unspecified amounts; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$52,800 for the reclassification of certain positions within the Early Childhood Services Unit of the Department of Health Early Intervention Section and \$142,032 for the establishment of two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) permanent mental health specialist positions within the Early Childhood Services Unit of the Department of Health Early Intervention Section.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 880, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 880, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Labor.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 59 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 933

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a reduction in the general excise tax rate on gross proceeds or gross income from the sale of groceries that are eligible for purchase under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children and from the sale of nonprescription drugs; and
- (2) Require the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to conduct an economic cost-benefit analysis on the general excise reductions and submit a report to the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Hawai'i Foodbank; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawaii Food Industry Association; and Maui Chamber of Commerce. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's high cost of living forces many residents to struggle with basic necessities, including food, housing, and medication. Food insecurity remains a serious issue, with nearly half of Hawaii families with children experiencing difficulty affording enough to eat. Unlike most states, Hawaii taxes groceries at the full general excise tax rate, which disproportionately burdens working families and those on limited budgets. Reducing the general excise tax on groceries and nonprescription drugs would provide immediate financial relief, helping families afford essential items.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes the request in testimony from the Department of Taxation that this measure take effect on January 1, 2027, rather than January 1, 2026, to allow the Department sufficient time to implement the proposed reduced rates for the sale of eligible groceries and nonprescription drugs and provide businesses with enough time to update their accounting systems to comply with the changes proposed by this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 933, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 933, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 60 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 1140

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the removal of homeless encampments on state lands under the Department's control; and
- (2) Beginning with fiscal biennium 2027-2029, require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to include line-item funding to cover the clean-up costs associated with homeless encampments on its lands in the Department's annual budget request.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that homeless encampments on public lands managed by the Department of Land and Natural Resources pose significant challenges, including environmental degradation, public health hazards, and increased cleanup costs. These encampments are found in high-traffic areas such as Diamond Head State Monument, wildlife sanctuaries, harbors, and unencumbered lands across the islands. To ensure the Department of Land and Natural Resources can continue encampment cleanups without diverting critical operational resources, this measure provides dedicated funding for the cleanup and restoration of Department-managed lands.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$2,500,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1140, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1140, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Amato). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 61 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 1486

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Make it a disorderly conduct offense to remain or loiter within twenty feet of a bus stop with no intent to utilize any bus service;
- (2) Authorize law enforcement officers to immediately remove any person committing the offense, including confiscating any of their personal property and determining if the confiscated property is to be saved or discarded; and
- (3) Appropriate funds to the counties for enforcement.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu; Honolulu Police Department; and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender and one individual.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's homelessness crisis has reached a critical point, creating safety concerns for the general public. A growing issue is the use of bus stops as makeshift residences, where individuals occupy entire shelters and store personal belongings, leaving little to no space for riders. This not only displaces commuters, especially kupuna and those with mobility issues, but also poses hazards for those boarding or exiting buses. To ensure public safety and accessibility, this measure seeks to prohibit loitering near bus stops without intent to use transit, empower law enforcement to address obstructions, and provide necessary funding to enforce these measures.

Your Committee notes the concerns regarding the constitutionality of certain provisions in this measure and requests the Department of the Attorney General to examine this issue further should your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs choose to deliberate on this measure.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1486, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1486, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 1 (Amato). Excused, none.

SCRep. 62 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 877

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the erection, placement, construction, or maintenance of an encampment within one hundred feet from the property line of a K-12 public or private school or school facility.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Department of Education. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that homeless encampments near school grounds pose significant safety, health, and environmental risks to students, school staff, and the surrounding community. These encampments, which often consist of tents and makeshift shelters, can obstruct public access, introduce hazardous conditions, and create public safety concerns. This measure seeks to prohibit the establishment of encampments within one hundred feet of public and private school property, ensuring a safer and more secure environment for students, educators, and other staff.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the definition of "buffer zone" to include pre-K classrooms and public or private property;
- (2) Making a violation of the school encampment buffer zone a petty misdemeanor, rather than subjecting violators to immediate removal;
- (3) Requiring law enforcement personnel to take the personal belongings of individuals displaced from encampments into custody for storage, to be returned to the individual upon release from custody;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and

(5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 877, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 877, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Education.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Amato). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 63 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 322

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Human Services to automatically transmit voter registration information for any Med-Quest applicant;
- (2) Authorize state agencies to implement automatic voter registration if designated by the Office of Elections; and
- (3) Require eligible applicants for instruction permits, provisional licenses, driver's licenses, and identification cards to be automatically registered or preregistered to vote unless the applicants opt out.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services and Office of Elections.

Your Committee finds that ensuring every eligible person can register to vote in a convenient and secure manner is essential to a strong democracy. While Hawaii implemented automatic voter registration in 2021 to address historically low voter participation rates, the current opt-in system still places the burden on individuals to register, limiting its effectiveness. Therefore, this measure strengthens the State's automatic voter registration program, making the process more seamless and accessible for all eligible residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have required the Department of Human Services to automatically transmit voter registration information for any Med-Quest applicant;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 322, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 322, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 2 (Alcos, Garcia). Excused, none.

SCRep. 64 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 603

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to administer and oversee a Native Hawaiian Marketing Program to promote businesses owned by native Hawaiians through marketing and technical assistance;
- (2) Require the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to submit reports on the status of the Native Hawaiian Marketing Program; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for the Native Hawaiian Marketing Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Cupcakes, BOOM!; BOOM! Wahine; Welo Creations; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Your Committee finds that Hawaiian-owned businesses are indispensable to the State's communities as those businesses create jobs, grow the local economy, advance Hawaiian entrepreneurship, and advance cultural preservation. Your Committee further finds that the Office of Hawaiian Affairs has concerns regarding enforcement of the proposed initiative and proposes that the appropriation be reallocated for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to establish a working group.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have established the Native Hawaiian Marketing Program;
- (2) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (3) Reallocating the appropriation for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to convene a working group to engage with relevant stakeholders about program design, implementation, and long-term viability of a Native Hawaiian Marketing Program to promote and support the success of businesses owned by Hawaiians through marketing and technical assistance;
- (4) Amending the information required for the reports by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$350,000.

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. 603, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 603, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Todd).

SCRep. 65 Health on H.B. No. 139

The purpose of this measure is to require insurers, mutual benefit societies, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for standard fertility preservation services under certain circumstances for policies, contracts, plans, and agreements issued or renewed after December 31, 2025.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Society of Clinical Oncology; Association for Clinical Oncology; Leukemia & Lymphoma Society; Advanced Reproductive Medicine & Gynecology of Hawaii, Inc.; Fertility Institute of Hawaii; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Alliance for Fertility Preservation; FORCE: Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered; Hawaii Medical Service Association; Hawaii Association of Health Plans; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Office of the Auditor.

Your Committee finds advances in technology have greatly improved cancer treatment and survivor rates. Your Committee further finds that many medical treatments that treat cancer, such as chemotherapy and radiation, can significantly damage reproductive tissues and affect fertility in men and women. However, many of these individuals are unable to afford the financial burden of fertility preservation, often leaving cancer survivors in their prime without the ability to start a family. Your Committee believes that requiring coverage of fertility preservation for patients whose diagnosis and treatment may adversely affect their fertility will reduce some of the long-term mental, emotional, and physical impacts of cancer on patients and their families.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider including spouses and dependents of policyholders over the age of twenty-six among the individuals able to receive coverage for standard fertility preservation services as provided by this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 139, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 139, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 66 Health on H.B. No. 714

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to support educational programs that expand the State's health care workforce.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Education; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Corporate Board; University of Hawai'i System; Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Liberty Dialysis-Hawaii; The Queen's Health Systems; and Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i.

Your Committee finds that as the State's population ages, there is an increased demand for workers in all areas of the health care workforce. Your Committee further finds that workforce development programs, such as public high school health care certificate programs and the certified nurse assistant to licensed practical nurse glidepath program, are crucial programs that aim to strengthen the State's health care system by preparing new health care workers to enter the workforce and supporting the career advancement of existing workers. This measure supports the work of these programs by appropriating funds to continue ongoing activities and allow the programs to scale up to meet the increasing health care needs of the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount, to be expended by the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, rather than the Department of Education and University of Hawai'i;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,450,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 714, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 714, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committees on Higher Education and Education.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 67 Health on H.B. No. 1085

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the tax rates for cigarettes and little cigars, beginning January 1, 2026;
- (2) Amend the disposition of tax revenues to certain non-general funds, beginning July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Expand the disposition of tax revenues to the non-general funds to include all tobacco product taxes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Department of the Attorney General; University of Hawai'i Cancer Center; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition; Hina Mauka; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawaii COPD Coalition; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; The Queen's Health Systems; Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i; Hawaii Medical Association; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Cigar Association of America; Americans for Tax Reform; Hawaii Smokers Alliance; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; and Tax Foundation.

Your Committee finds that according to the United States Surgeon General, increasing the price of tobacco products is the single most effective way to reduce consumption. A ten percent increase in price is estimated to reduce overall cigarette consumption by up to five percent. Your Committee additionally finds that since its inception, cigarette tax revenue has been used to support vital health care services in the State, including cancer research and prevention, the State Trauma System, community health centers, and emergency medical services. However, in recent years cigarette tax revenue has declined, severely impacting the funding for these services. Your Committee further finds that these services only receive cigarette tax revenues, but do not see revenues from taxes on products such as e-cigarettes, e-liquids, cigars, and other tobacco products. This measure will increase the tax on cigarettes and expand the allocation

of revenues to the special funds that support these important health care services to include all tobacco products, ensuring these services remain adequately funded.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1085, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1085, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Higher Education.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 68 Health on H.B. No. 72

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require pharmacy technicians to be registered with the Board of Pharmacy by January 1, 2026;
- (2) Impose a duty on pharmacists-in-charge to report violations conducted by registered pharmacy technicians; and
- (3) Specify that supervising registered pharmacists are responsible for the actions of registered pharmacy technicians and pharmacy interns.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo; KTA Pharmacy; Hawaii Pharmacists Association; and seven individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Walgreen Co.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii is the only state that does not maintain a list of practicing pharmacy technicians, leaving a significant gap in oversight that can impact patient safety. Your Committee further finds that pharmacy technicians are a distinct category of health care professionals whose functions may include dispensing medications, processing insurance claims, and administering vaccines to patients. This measure will support public health and safety by ensuring pharmacy technicians have the appropriate background and supervision for their essential health care activities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding a definition of "auxiliary pharmacy personnel" for personnel that may be at the pharmacy, but whose duties are clerical in nature and excluding these individuals from the definition of "pharmacy technician";
- (2) Clarifying the duties of registered pharmacy technicians and what constitutes supervision of a registered pharmacy technician by a registered pharmacist;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 72, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 72, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 69 Health on H.B. No. 1179

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Provide a statutory framework for the licensure of rural emergency hospitals at the state level; and
- (2) Provide for the continuation of Medicaid policy protections for hospitals transitioning to a rural emergency hospital designation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Corporate Board of Directors; Maui Health System; and Healthcare Association of Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that the federal government recently authorized the creation of rural emergency hospitals, a new type of Medicare provider meant to address nationwide closures of rural hospitals. A rural emergency hospital designation will allow rural hospitals to focus on important services such as emergency department services, observation care, and tailored outpatient medical and health services while eliminating underutilized high-cost services, such as inpatient care. Your Committee further finds that a hospital must first be recognized as an emergency rural hospital at the state level before the hospital can pursue the new rural emergency hospital designation with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. This measure is intended to allow the State's rural hospitals to best meet the health care needs of their communities, including pursuing a rural emergency hospital designation, through the creation of a statutory framework for the licensure of rural emergency hospitals.

Your Committee notes the concerns raised by the Department of Human Services in their testimony on this measure that the state protections proposed by this measure may be insufficient given the federal interpretation of the rural emergency hospital designation. Your Committee respectfully requests that the Department seek guidance from federal officials regarding the Medicaid reimbursement protections outlined in this measure and any potential ramifications associated with critical access hospitals being redesigned as rural emergency hospitals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1179, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1179, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 70 Health on H.B. No. 712

The purpose of this measure is to preserve the integrity of the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program by prohibiting drug manufacturers from restricting the use of or denying access to pharmacies that are contracted with any 340B covered entity in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Island Community Health Center; Kōkua Kalihi Valley; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawai'i Island Community Health Center; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; The Queen's Health Systems; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Biotechnology Innovation Organization and Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health and Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program (340B Program) is essential for providing health care access to low-income and uninsured populations. The 340B Program requires drug manufacturers to offer significant discounts on outpatient medications to eligible health care facilities. Your Committee further finds that drug manufacturers have consistently limited the use of contract pharmacies by 340B covered entities, which significantly impacts the abilities of patients to access prescription medications. This measure will ensure access to essential health care for all persons, and particularly the State's rural population, by prohibiting drug manufacturers from restricting the use of pharmacies contracted with 340B covered entities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Placing the statutory provisions of this measure under chapter 481B, Hawaii Revised Statutes, which relates to unfair and deceptive practices, rather than under chapter 321, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (2) Removing references to wholesale distributors and clarifying the prohibition against manufacturers denying, restricting, or prohibiting the acquisition, shipping, or delivery of a 340B drug to a 340B contract pharmacy;
- (3) Amending the definition of "340B drug" to mean a prescription drug that is purchased by a 340B covered entity through the 340B Drug Pricing Program as authorized by federal law and is dispensed by a pharmacy;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 712, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 712, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 71 Health/Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 556

The purpose of this measure is to provide state-funded financial assistance for colorectal cancer screenings to certain Hawaii residents.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Community Clinic of Maui-Mālama I Ke Ola Health Center; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Fight Colorectal Cancer; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Hawaii Association of Health Plans; Hawai'i Association of Professional Nurses; and six individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services; Department of Health; and Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committees find colorectal cancer is the third leading cause of cancer in Hawaii and the third leading cause of cancer deaths nationwide. Your Committees further find that screening is vital for the early detection of colorectal cancer. However, not all residents of Hawaii have access to health insurance that provides no-cost colorectal cancer screening. Deaths from colorectal cancer are largely preventable and this measure will increase access to preventative health screenings, which will improve health outcomes for more Hawaii residents.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the state-funded colorectal screenings are for residents of the State who are permanent United States resident aliens and nonresident aliens who are ineligible for Medicaid, rather than Medicare;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Health and Human Services & Homelessness that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 556, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 556, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Health: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Human Services & Homelessness: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 72 Transportation on H.B. No. 655

The purpose of this measure is to limit the required payment of certain unpaid motor vehicle taxes and fees and accompanying financial penalties to those incurred during the most recent five consecutive years of delinquency.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Tax Foundation of Hawaii and one individual.

Your Committee finds that this measure provides a statute of limitations on unpaid motor vehicle taxes and fees and penalties to address the uncertainty and administrative burden of these fees on residents and the government respectively.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 655, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 655, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 73 Transportation on H.B. No. 228

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the counties to adopt rules for the use of electronic license plates;
- (2) Prohibit the use of license plate flipping devices; and
- (3) Establish maximum fines for intentionally obscuring a license plate with a cover or shield.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the City and County of Honolulu Division of Motor Vehicles of the Department of Customer Services.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Transportation's Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program relies on the ability to accurately identify the license plate of motor vehicles and that the use of license plate flipping devices are intentional attempts to avoid identification. This measure seeks to take a proactive approach to prevent the potential use of license plate flipping devices to ensure law enforcement can effectively track and identify vehicles involved in illegal activities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting a minimum fine amount of \$750 and a maximum fine amount of \$1,000 for violating the prohibition on license plate flipping devices;
- (2) Inserting a minimum fine amount of \$500 and a maximum fine amount of \$1,000 for violating the prohibition on intentionally obscuring a vehicle's license plate with a cover or shield; and
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 228, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 228, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 74 Transportation on H.B. No. 231

The purpose of this measure is to increase the fines for violating motor vehicle insurance requirements.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender.

Your Committee finds that uninsured drivers pose a significant financial and safety risk to all road users in the State, ultimately undermining the effectiveness of the State's motor vehicle insurance laws. Existing penalties have proven insufficient to deter repeat offenders and stronger measures are necessary to promote compliance and protect victims. This measure aims to enhance penalties and enforcement to ensure greater accountability and improve roadway safety.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Increasing the minimum and maximum fines to \$200 and \$5,500, respectively, for violating any provision of the motor vehicle insurance law;
- (2) Increasing the minimum and maximum fines to \$600 and \$2,500, respectively, for driving without a valid motor vehicle insurance policy;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 231, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 231, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 75 Transportation on H.B. No. 227

The purpose of this measure is to establish a maximum fine for offenses where the certificate of inspection for vehicles or mopeds are expired for more than two years.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that worn or faulty components on motor vehicles and mopeds may fail while in operation and that regular safety inspections minimize the potential for component failure and increase safety for drivers, passengers, and the public. Your Committee further finds that existing penalties are insufficient to deter individuals from continuing to operate a vehicle or moped without a valid certificate of inspection.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Increasing the fines for the first offense and second offense within ten years of a prior offense to a maximum of \$150 and \$250, respectively;
- (2) Inserting a savings clause;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 227, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 227, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 76 Transportation on H.B. No. 577

The purpose of this measure is to establish a five-year tax credit for businesses in a county having a population of seven hundred thousand or more that pay for the public transportation costs of their employees.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Retail Merchants of Hawaii and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that this measure would help businesses subsidize certain transportation costs of their employees and encourage the use of public transportation.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have limited the tax credit to an employer having a place of business in, and public transportation operated in, a county with a population of seven hundred thousand or more;
- (2) Specifying that no tax credit carried forward shall be used as a credit for a taxable year beginning after December 31, 2030;
- (3) Specifying that no other tax credit or deduction for the same expenses shall be claimed under the state income tax law;
- (4) Deleting language that would have required the Director of Taxation to include in their report to the Legislature the impact of the tax credit and whether this tax credit should be continued;
- (5) Specifying that this measure, upon its approval, applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025;
- (6) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 577, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 577, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 77 Transportation on H.B. No. 697

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow authorized employees of the Department of Transportation and Department of Law Enforcement to inspect and provide a certificate of certain evidence for speed limit violations obtained by automated speed enforcement systems; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to the Department of Transportation to establish and implement the Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that the expansion of the Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program will require additional personnel to review and process citations accurately and efficiently. Authorizing staff within the Department of Transportation and Department of Law Enforcement to inspect and certify certain evidence relating to speed limit violations will ensure consistent application of the Program.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$5,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 697, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 697, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 78 Transportation on H.B. No. 810

The purpose of this measure is to establish a private right of action for any person aggrieved by a violation of the Federal Aviation Act and existing federal laws to bring a civil action against the owner or operator of the helicopter in violation and collect damages and litigation costs.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Vertical Aviation International. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that there have been community complaints alleging that helicopter tour operators are flying too close to residences. Your Committee further finds that operators are alleged to operate at varying hours of the day and that the noise generated from their operations causes significant disruption to many residents on a daily basis. This measure provides a mechanism for persons to hold disruptive operators accountable by establishing a private right of action for any person aggrieved by violations of federal aviation law.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 810, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 810, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Miyake). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 79 Public Safety on H.B. No. 677

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to:

- (1) In collaboration with various agencies and upon request of the inmates, assist inmates in obtaining their civil identification card, birth certificate, social security card, and other relevant identification necessary for successful reentry into society, as soon as practicable, but no later than one year before the inmate's parole or release date; and
- (2) Initiate the process of obtaining identifying documents for inmates released to work furlough, extended furlough, or community placement programs, by providing the forms necessary for the inmate to obtain civil identification cards and other identifying documents to the inmate as soon as practicable, but no later than ninety days before the inmate's release date.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission; Office of the Public Defender; Waikiki Health; Community Alliance on Prisons; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that this measure is one way to help individuals leaving the correctional system to reintegrate into society as smoothly as possible.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 677, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 677, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 80 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 534

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the sale of raw ahi and raw ahi products in retail establishments in the State without a label that states the country where the ahi was landed.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; North Shore Nutrition; Hawai'i Fishermen's Alliance for Conservation and Tradition, Inc.; Hawaii Longline Association; Farm Link Hawai'i; Paradise Poke Hawaii; Local I'a; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's tuna fisheries are a vital part of the State's economy and food system, yet consumers are often misled about the origin of the ahi they purchase, as most ahi sold at retail establishments, particularly in poke and sushi products, is actually imported, previously frozen, and carbon monoxide-treated. Due to a loophole in federal labeling laws, retailers are not required to disclose the origin of these products, leading many consumers to falsely assume they are purchasing fresh, locally caught tuna. By ensuring transparency in seafood labeling, this measure empowers consumers to make informed choices, supports Hawaii's fishing industry, and protects the integrity of the State's premium seafood market.

Your Committee notes that further consideration should be given to other ways to strengthen the intent of this measure by looking at other metrics for labeling requirements of processed ahi, such as "fresh" or "previously frozen".

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the labeling requirements apply to processed ahi, rather than raw ahi;
- (2) Adding a definition for "processed ahi";
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 534, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 534, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 81 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 912

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Agribusiness Development Corporation to offset the financial burden of reimbursement of debt service for the Waiahole water system.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Agribusiness Development Corporation; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Kunia Village Title Holding Corporation; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Agriculture Research Center; Bayer; Larry Jeffs Farms, LLC; and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Waiahole water system is a vital component of Hawaii's agricultural infrastructure, providing a dependable water source for thousands of acres of productive farmland on Oahu. Originally constructed to support sugarcane plantations, the system now plays a crucial role in sustaining diversified agriculture, which is essential to the State's long-term food security and economic resilience. However, the financial burden of repaying acquisition costs has strained the Agribusiness Development Corporation, limiting its ability to maintain and improve the system. This measure addresses this issue by appropriating funds to offset the remaining debt, ensuring that farmers and ranchers who rely on this irrigation system can continue to operate without excessive financial strain.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriations to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully respects your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$4,411,426.49 for fiscal year 2025-2026 to be deposited into the Waiahole Water System Revolving Fund; and \$426,370 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$427,172 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for the reimbursement to the state general fund of debt service on reimbursable general obligation bonds, including ongoing expenses related to the issuance of the bonds.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 912, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 912, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 82 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 498

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish and appropriate funds for the Hawaii Agricultural Crimes Council to develop agricultural crime prevention, problem solving, and crime control recommendations and implement related programs to encourage timely reporting of agricultural crimes; and
- (2) Require the Department of Agriculture to collaborate with and support the Council.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; North Shore Livestock; Hawaiian Host Group; Kealia Ranch; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that theft and vandalism within the agricultural sector are significant problems in the State. Because these crimes occur in rural and geographically isolated locations and due to limited resources, law enforcement agencies often cannot timely respond to and adequately address reports of the crimes. This measure establishes the Hawaii Agricultural Crimes Council to help the State address resource limitations and enforcement capabilities, enhance data collection, and restore public trust in law enforcement to adequately prosecute agricultural crimes.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Modifying the membership of the Hawaii Agricultural Crimes Council to include designees of certain members;
- (2) Clarifying that the Hawaii Agricultural Crimes Council may investigate and enforce violations of agricultural crimes by appointing and commissioning investigators;
- (3) Inserting language that establishes the Agricultural Enforcement Special Fund, to be administered by the Department of Law Enforcement;
- (4) Directing monies, revenue, and fines received by the Hawaii Agricultural Crimes Council into the Agricultural Enforcement Special Fund instead of the Animal Industry Special Fund;
- (5) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (6) Changing the numbers of various positions to be established for the Hawaii Agricultural Crimes Council to unspecified numbers;
- (7) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$2,000,000 for the establishment and operation of the Hawaii Agricultural Crimes Council, including one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) Executive Director position, one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) Staff Assistant position, and two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) Deputy Inspector positions.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 498, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 498, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 83 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 1449

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Department of Agriculture to adopt rules and establishes administrative penalties to establish and enforce the Plant Care Component Program; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the Plant Care Component Program and certain positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawaii Invasive Species Council; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and Hawai'i Food+ Policy.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's agricultural and natural ecosystems are highly vulnerable to invasive pests and plant diseases, which can threaten local food production, biodiversity, and forest health. Act 197, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, took an important step in addressing this issue by requiring the Department of Agriculture to certify the treatment of plant care components such as wood chips, compost, and filter socks. However, without clear enforcement mechanisms and sufficient resources, the risk of untreated or improperly treated materials spreading harmful pests persists. This measure strengthens the existing program by authorizing the Department of Agriculture to adopt rules and administrative penalties and providing additional resources. By investing in regulatory oversight, this measure not only protects the State's agricultural industry and forests, but also supports food security, reduces dependence on imported goods, and promotes long-term sustainability.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the conditions under which a person may distribute within the State a plant care component that originated outside the State;

- (2) Adding definitions for "board" and "person";
- (3) Clarifying the definition of "plant care component" or "component";
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully respects your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$471,168 for the implementation and performance of the Plant Care Component Program, including the establishment of one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent civil service Plant Quarantine Inspector IV position and seven full-time equivalent (7.0 FTE) permanent civil service Plant Quarantine Inspector III positions within the Department of Agriculture's Plant Industry Division, Plant Quarantine Branch.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1449, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1449, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 84 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 1334

The purpose of this measure is to exempt the donation of wild game meat or meat products, including axis deer, to a charitable, religious, or nonprofit organization for purposes of feeding those in need from certain laws regarding the inspection and transportation of meat.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Agriculture; one member of the Maui County Council; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Maui Wild Game Management; Hawai'i Foodbank; Maui Food Bank; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Maui Adaptation Project; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Hawai'i Pacific Advisory Group; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that food insecurity remains a pressing issue in the State, with many families struggling to access adequate nutrition. Additionally, the overpopulation of axis deer in Hawaii has caused significant damage to watersheds, ecosystems, and agricultural lands, while also contributing to economic losses for farmers and landowners. This measure provides a practical solution to those challenges by exempting the donation of wild game meat and meat products, including axis deer, to charitable, religious, and nonprofit organizations from certain inspection and transportation laws. By removing certain barriers to meat donation, this measure enables hunters and landowners to help control the invasive deer population while providing a healthy, locally sourced protein to those in need.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1334, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1334, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Health.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 85 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 427

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Rename the Department of Agriculture to the "Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity";
- (2) Rename the Board of Agriculture to the "Board of Agriculture and Biosecurity";
- (3) Establish and appropriate funds for a Deputy Director of Biosecurity;
- (4) Change references to the plant and animal declaration form to the "biosecurity form";
- (5) Authorize and specify conditions under which the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity may declare a biosecurity emergency, during which the Department and Governor may take certain actions to prevent the establishment or spread of pests and prohibited or restricted organisms;
- (6) Broaden the objectives and general actions of the Biosecurity Program; and
- (7) Appropriate funds for positions for the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Invasive Species Council; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Kealia Ranch; Kupuna for the Moopuna; Larry Jefts Farms, LLC; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Green Party of Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species; O'ahu Invasive Species Committee; Matson Navigation Company, Inc.; Kaua'i Invasive Species Committee; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that the impacts of invasive species to Hawaii have been severe, negative, and expensive and have included serious habitat degradation, extinction of native species, increased wildfire risk, increases in the cost of agriculture and livestock production, among other impacts. Strengthening the State's biosecurity response and resources, including broadening the conditions under which a biosecurity emergency may be declared, would facilitate more proactive and expedient mitigation of the risks posed by invasive species and their importation.

Your Committee notes that there were several organizations and individuals who submitted testimony indicating that they wanted more legislative oversight in the selection process of the Deputy Director of Biosecurity.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Moving language that establishes the Deputy Director of Biosecurity from chapter 150A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to chapter 141, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (2) Clarifying that the Deputy Director of Biosecurity shall be appointed by the Governor, rather than the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture, but not be subject to the advice and consent of the Senate;

- (3) Changing the numbers for various positions, including for the Deputy Director of Biosecurity, to unspecified numbers;
- (4) Clarifying that for the duration of a declared biosecurity emergency, the Hawaii Invasive Species Council shall work with the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture, rather than report directly to the Chairperson;
- (5) Clarifying the objectives of the Biosecurity Program related to the control and eradication of pests;
- (6) Clarifying provisions related to providing public education on reporting pests and prohibited or restricted organisms under the Biosecurity Program;
- (7) Clarifying provisions related to the Department of Agriculture's ability to subpoena certain documentation from importers for the purposes of the Biosecurity Program;
- (8) Deleting language that would have granted the Department of Agriculture certain quarantine powers;
- (9) Changing the appropriation and allocations to unspecified amounts;
- (10) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (11) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider establishing one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent Deputy Director of Biosecurity position and \$12,735,015 for forty-four full-time equivalent (44.0 FTE) positions within the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity, including \$11,930,523 for thirty-two full-time equivalent (32.0 FTE) positions under plant pest and disease control (program ID AGR122) and \$804,492 for twelve full-time equivalent (12.0 FTE) positions under pesticides (program ID AGR846).

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 427, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 427, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 86 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 1323

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Agriculture, upon approval of the Board of Agriculture, to accept the transfer of and manage certain qualifying non-agricultural park lands.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Ernest De Luz Ranch, LLC; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Boteilho Hawaii Enterprises Inc.; SC Ranch Company, Inc.; Maui County Farm Bureau; Larry Jeffs Farms, LLC; Kapapala Ranch; and eight individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that for over two decades, the transfer of non-agricultural park lands from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture has been stalled, creating uncertainty for farmers and ranchers who rely on these lands for agricultural production. Act 90, Session Laws of Hawaii 2003, was intended to ensure the long-term productive use of public lands for agriculture, but many leaseholders are still waiting for their lands to be transferred. Without the stability of long-term agricultural leases under the Department of Agriculture, farmers and ranchers face significant challenges in making necessary investments in infrastructure, conservation, and sustainable land management. This measure resolves the long-standing delays by requiring the Department of Agriculture, upon approval of the Board of Agriculture, to accept the transfer of qualifying agricultural lands, ensuring that lands primarily used for farming and ranching are managed by the agency dedicated to fostering agriculture.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1323, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1323, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5; Ayes with Reservations (Lowen, Perruso). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 87 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 1006

The purpose of this measure is to include agricultural tourism in the definition of "enterprise" to authorize the Agribusiness Development Corporation to financially support farming businesses engaged in agricultural tourism.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that agritourism is an innovative strategy that merges agriculture and tourism, providing farmers with additional revenue streams while educating consumers about local food production. By including agricultural tourism in the definition of "enterprise", this measure allows the Agribusiness Development Corporation to extend financial and technical support to farming businesses engaged in agritourism. This expansion will enable farmers to develop activities such as farm tours, hands-on workshops, and farm-to-table experiences, which not only enhance profitability but also strengthen consumer awareness and appreciation for Hawaii-grown products.

Your Committee notes that the Agribusiness Development Corporation will need to revise its rules to account for the impact that this measure will have on existing state laws related to agritourism activities before it can begin effectuating this measure, if enacted.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1006, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1006, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Tourism.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5; Ayes with Reservations (Perruso), Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 88 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 976

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a temporary Sustainable Aviation Fuel Import Income Tax Credit; and
- (2) Amend the Renewable Fuels Production Tax Credit by:
 - (A) Increasing the tax credit rate;
 - (B) Repealing the cap on claimable credits per taxpayer per taxable year and increasing the cap on total claimable credits for all eligible taxpayers per calendar year;
 - (C) Specifying that the credit may be claimed for fuels with lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions and product transportation emissions below certain thresholds;
 - (D) Repealing the prohibition on claiming other credits for the cost incurred to produce renewable fuels;
 - (E) Adding credit values for low lifecycle emissions renewable fuels and sustainable aviation fuels produced;
 - (F) Allowing a taxpayer who previously claimed a credit to claim another one for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024; and
 - (G) Amending the required information in the certified statement for the credit.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Life of the Land; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Hawai'i Renewable Fuels Coalition; Pono Pacific; Alaska Airlines and Hawaiian Airlines; Par Hawaii; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Coalition Earth; Pacific Biodiesel Technologies; Airlines for America; Twelve; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Americans for Democratic Action, Hawaii Chapter; Energy Justice Network; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Hawaii State Energy Office; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; and Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute.

Your Committee finds that encouraging increased sustainable aviation fuel production will help the State decrease its dependence on fossil fuels. This measure addresses this need by establishing a temporary Sustainable Aviation Fuel Import Income Tax Credit and amending the Renewable Fuels Production Tax Credit by increasing the credit rate, repealing the cap on claimable credits per year, adding additional credit values, and allowing a taxpayers who previously claimed the credit to claim another.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the process by which a taxpayer may elect to receive a refund of credits in excess of payments due;
- (2) Changing the total amount of credits allowed under the Sustainable Aviation Fuel Import Income Tax Credit and Renewable Fuels Production Tax Credit to unspecified amounts;
- (3) Amending the Renewable Fuels Production Tax Credit by:
 - (A) Reverting to the existing statutory prohibition on claiming other credits for the costs incurred to produce renewable fuels;
 - (B) Establishing a cap on the total aggregate amount of additional credit value for sustainable aviation fuel in any year;
 - (C) Amending the credit period to be for a maximum period of ten consecutive years beginning from the effective date of this measure; and
 - (D) Narrowing the definition of "lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions" by deleting carbon offsetting and reduction scheme for international aviation from the methodologies used to calculate attributional core lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 976, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 976, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 89 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 978

The purpose of this measure is to allow the Public Utilities Commission to appoint a receiver to take temporary action necessary to assure continued service or to bring the service up to appropriate regulatory standards when a regulated investor-owned electric utility is failing, or there is an imminent threat of the utility failing, to provide adequate and reasonable service to its customers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Climate Protectors Hawai'i. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Public Utilities Commission.

Your Committee finds that when a regulated water or sewer utility is failing, or there is an imminent threat of the utility failing, to provide adequate and reasonable service to its customers, the Public Utilities Commission has the authority to appoint a receiver to take temporary action. Your Committee further finds that the Public Utilities Commission does not have the same authority for regulated investor-owned electric utilities. This measure addresses this need by allowing the Public Utilities Commission to appoint a receiver for a regulated investor-owned electric utility under certain circumstances.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the appropriation;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

If the scope of the Public Utilities Commission's authority to appoint a receiver were to be expanded to include gas utilities in addition to investor-owned electric utilities, your Committee notes the concern raised by Hawai'i Gas during the hearing that the Public Utilities Commission lacks jurisdiction over the gas utility's unregulated business segment. Your Committee finds that this issue merits further examination and consideration.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 978, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 978, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 90 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 339

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Public Utilities Commission to consider or impose certain conditions of approval on any order approving, in whole or in part, an application for the proposed acquisition, merger, or consolidation of an electric utility by an acquiring entity; and
- (2) Establish a process to ensure that when an application for the proposed acquisition, merger, or consolidation of an electric utility is filed by an investor-owned utility, the Public Utilities Commission suspends its review of the application for one hundred eighty days for the consideration of alternative applications from non-investor-owned utilities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Ulupono Initiative; the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1260; and Climate Protectors Hawai'i. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Public Utilities Commission.

Your Committee finds that if the Public Utilities Commission considers the application of an acquisition, merger, or consolidation of an electric utility, the Commission should consider certain conditions of approval for the application and establish a process to ensure that bids for acquisition from non-investor-owned utilities are concurrently considered. This measure establishes certain conditions of approval related to a potential acquiring entity's perceived or actual support for or opposition to the State's renewable portfolio standards, the existing performance-based regulation framework, power purchase agreements, and collective bargaining agreements.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding a requirement that the acquiring entity be bound to existing collective bargaining agreements and retain all covered employees;
- (2) Deleting the requirement that the Public Utilities Commission suspend its review for one hundred eighty days and establish a process and instead requiring an electric utility subject to an application for a proposed acquisition, merger, or consolidation by an investor-owned utility to:
 - (A) Demonstrate that it solicited bids from entities operating under a non-investor-owned utility ownership model, specify whether these types of entities submitted bids, and reasons those bids were or were not accepted; and
 - (B) If the electric utility accepted a bid from an entity operating under a non-investor-owned utility ownership model, present the bid to the Public Utilities Commission concurrently with an application by an investor-owned utility;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 339, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 339, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 91 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 342

The purpose of this measure is to require:

- (1) Gas utility companies to file a proposed initial renewable gas tariff or tariffs with the Public Utilities Commission by August 31, 2025; and
- (2) The Public Utilities Commission to approve or modify the proposed initial renewable gas tariff or tariffs no later than six months after the filing of the tariff, provided that the proposed tariff does not increase rates for other customers, and the tariff is found to be just, reasonable, and in the public interest.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State Energy Office; Hawai'i Gas; BANA PACIFIC INC; Hawai'i Restaurant Association; Coalition for Renewable Natural Gas; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Life of the Land. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Public Utilities Commission.

Your Committee finds that it is imperative that renewable gas tariffs be established by gas utilities in the State in order to reduce reliance on imported petroleum and promote renewable energy production. This measure addresses this need by requiring gas utility companies to file proposed initial gas tariffs with the Public Utilities Commission by August 31, 2025, which the Public Utilities Commission shall approve or modify within six months, provided the tariffs meet certain standards.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Moving the contents of the measure from Hawaii Revised Statutes to session laws;
- (2) Specifying that the Public Utilities Commission shall determine the completeness of an application for a proposed renewable gas tariff within thirty days of the filing of the application;
- (3) Amending the definition of "net therm usage" to mean the amount of gas a customer uses during a monthly billing cycle as measured in therm units;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 342, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 342, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 92 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 750

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Health to conduct a statewide needs assessment to determine what will be needed to reduce waste generation, increase reuse, improve recycling collection services, and expand local processing of materials through an extended producer responsibility program for packaging materials and paper products;
- (2) Establish an advisory council to review the draft needs assessment and propose recommendations;
- (3) Require the Department of Health to hold a public hearing on the draft needs assessment and submit the needs assessment to the Legislature by December 31, 2028; and
- (4) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; AMERIPEN; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; American Cleaning Institute; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Food Industry Association and Flexible Packaging Association.

Your Committee finds that extended producer responsibility programs shift responsibility for a product's lifecycle, including end-of-life management, from consumers and governments to the producers of the product. Your Committee further finds that these kinds of programs encourage sustainable product designs that lead to less waste and more fully recyclable and reusable products and packaging. This measure will help determine the viability of such a program by requiring the Department of Health to conduct a needs assessment to determine what will be needed to reduce waste generation, increase reuse, improve recycling collection services, and expand local processing of materials through an extended producer responsibility program for packaging materials and paper products.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding representatives from a business that manufactures consumer packaged goods for sale in Hawaii and the composting industry to the advisory council;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes the testimony from the Hawaii Food Industry Association regarding exemptions for prescription medications, medical devices, and supplements but finds that since this measure only creates a needs assessment, these exemptions may be premature and instead should be considered in future legislation creating an extended producer responsibility program.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider appropriating funds for this measure out of the Deposit Beverage Container Deposit Special Fund instead of general revenues.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 750, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 750, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 93 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 350

The purpose of this measure is to expand the types of water heater systems required for the issuance of a building permit for new single-family dwellings to include ENERGY STAR certified heat pump water heaters.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State Energy Office and Hawai'i Energy. Your Committee received comments on this measure from The Solaray Corporation dba Inter-Island Solar Supply and the Hawaii Solar Energy Association.

Your Committee finds that ENERGY STAR certified heat pump water heaters offer an environmentally friendly and energy-efficient alternative to traditional electric water heaters. Your Committee further finds that these types of water heaters do not currently satisfy the water heater system requirements for the issuance of a building permit for new single-family dwellings. This measure addresses this issue by expanding the types of water heater systems that satisfy this requirement to ENERGY STAR certified heat pump water heaters.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee notes and will continue to consider the amendment suggested by the Solaray Corporation to allow only ENERGY STAR certified heat pump water heaters that meet or exceed the average efficiency of solar water heaters to be added to this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 350, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 350, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Housing.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 94 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 346

The purpose of this measure is to expand the existing Electric Vehicle Charging System Rebate Program to provide rebates for the installation of eligible electric vehicle-ready parking stalls in new construction of affordable housing.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State Energy Office; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Public Utilities Commission; Green Party of Hawai'i; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Hawaiian Electric; 350Hawaii.org; Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association; Citizens' Climate Lobby Hawaii; Hawai'i Energy; RERides EV, LLC; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; Alliance for Automotive Innovation; EAH Housing; Coalition Earth; NAIOP Hawaii; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that there is a lack of adequate electric vehicle charging infrastructure in the State, limiting the adoption of electric vehicles and depriving the State of the environmental benefits associated with increased electric vehicle usage. This measure addresses this need by establishing rebates for the installation of eligible electric vehicle-ready parking stalls for new construction of affordable housing.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 346, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 346, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Housing.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 95 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 742

The purpose of this measure is to require the Hawaii Community Development Authority to prepare environmental impact statements for the Iwilei/Kapalama and University of Hawaii West Oahu transit-oriented development infrastructure improvement districts.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; Hawai'i YIMBY; Holomua Collaborative; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Mana Up; Title Guaranty Hawai'i; HPM Building Supply; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Hawai'i Community Development Authority; and Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

Your Committee finds that the Iwilei/Kapalama and University of Hawaii West Oahu districts have been identified as transit-oriented development infrastructure improvement districts, meaning these districts are within county-designated transit-oriented development zones or within close proximity to a proposed or existing transit station. Your Committee further finds that environmental impact statements should be prepared for these districts to identify the potential effects of development on surrounding land and natural resources.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 742, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 742, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 96 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 470

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase penalties for violations of leaf blower and weed whacker restrictions;
- (2) Repeal the exemption for government agencies from leaf blower and weed whacker restrictions; and
- (3) Beginning July 1, 2028, prohibit the sale of leaf blowers, string trimmers, and weed whackers rated by their manufacturers at greater than sixty-five weighted decibels when measured at a distance of fifty feet.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Retail Merchants of Hawaii and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health and Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that certain leaf blowers, string trimmers, and weed whackers operate at high measures of weighted decibels, creating a nuisance for those in the vicinity and potentially causing hearing damage through prolonged exposure. Your Committee believes that this measure will address this issue by increasing penalties for violations of leaf blower and weed whacker restrictions, repealing certain exemptions to these restrictions, and prohibiting the sale of certain leaf blowers, string trimmers, and weed whackers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 470, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 470, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 97 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 366

The purpose of this measure is to require contested cases, environmental assessment cases, or environmental impact statement cases involving renewable energy projects over twenty megawatts in size, except cases that involve any form of incineration, to be appealed from an agency's decision directly to the Hawaii Supreme Court for final decision and prioritized and decided expeditiously.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Climate Protectors Hawai'i and Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from 350Hawaii.org and Hawaii Clean Power Alliance. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Public Utilities Commission; and Life of the Land.

Your Committee finds that the State can support renewable energy projects by expediting the permitting process for projects that align with its clean energy goal. This measure addresses this need by requiring contested cases, environmental assessment cases, or environmental impact statement cases involving certain renewable energy projects to be appealed from an agency's decision directly to the Hawaii Supreme Court for final decision and prioritized and decided expeditiously.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that cases involving the determination of a finding of no significant impact for an environmental assessment shall be appealed directly to the Hawaii Supreme Court;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 366, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 366, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5; Ayes with Reservations (Quinlan). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 98 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 786

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend the types of containers beverage dealers must accept for redemption and repeal certain exemptions for beverage dealers from the requirement to operate redemption centers;
- (2) Allow for the establishment of regional centers for the redemption of refillable beverage containers in addition to existing redemption centers; and
- (3) Require the Department of Health to establish a Reverse Vending Machine Pilot Program, using the Deposit Beverage Container Deposit Special Fund to provide grants to deploy reverse vending machines.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaii Food Industry Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that the State must ensure that consumers have access to redemption centers to recycle beverage containers. This measure addresses this need by allowing the Department of Health to use money from the Deposit Beverage Container Deposit Special Fund to deploy reverse vending machines, repealing certain exemptions for beverage dealers from the requirement to operate redemption centers, and allowing for the establishment of regional redemption centers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Department of Health is not required to use grants to deploy reverse vending machines;
- (2) Removing the requirements for the types of containers beverage dealers must accept;
- (3) Reinstating the exemption for beverage dealers in high density population areas and changing the qualifications for the exemption to beverage dealers within one-half of a mile of a redemption center;
- (4) Reinstating the requirement that a beverage dealer's place of business be less than five thousand square feet of interior space to qualify for the exemption;
- (5) Removing the requirement for the Department of Health to establish a Reverse Vending Machine Pilot Program;
- (6) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 786, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 786, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 99 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 734

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Health, in consultation with appropriate agencies and professionals, to review rules and practices and propose changes that have the potential to make wastewater systems and cesspool upgrades more affordable without compromising water quality; and
- (2) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Public Access to SunScreens Coalition; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Coral Reef Alliance; WAI: Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations; Hawai'i Wai Ola; The Nature Conservancy Hawai'i and Palmyra; and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that cesspools in the State are a serious environmental and public health issue. This measure addresses cesspool pollution and explores additional pathways toward cesspool upgrade or conversion affordability without compromising water quality.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program from the list of entities with whom the Department of Health shall consult;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$150,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 734, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 734, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 100 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 736

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a three-year Wastewater System Technology Testing Pilot Program within the University of Hawai'i Water Resources Research Center.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; University of Hawai'i Water Resources Research Center; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation Commission; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Public Access to SunScreens Coalition; Hawai'i Reef & Ocean Coalition; Coral Reef Alliance; WAI: Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations; The Nature Conservancy Hawai'i and Palmyra; Hawai'i Wai Ola; and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that the State is committed to improving water quality and public health in its programs aimed at transitioning away from cesspools. However, the existing approved replacement options pose their own challenges as advanced treatment units are highly effective but costly and septic systems, though more affordable, have limited nutrient removal efficiency in Hawaii's coastal environments. The lack of viable, cost-effective solutions is a major barrier to meeting the State's water quality goals and could lead to substantial investments with limited impact. This measure addresses some of the State's cesspool conversion challenges by exploring alternative affordable and effective treatment options.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes the existing unspecified appropriation amount in this measure and requests the University of Hawaii to provide the anticipated costs to implement the Wastewater System Technology Testing Pilot Program as this measure advances through the legislative process.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 736, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 736, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Higher Education.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 101 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 969

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the construction, modification, or expansion of any waste or disposal facility on land that is near or above a significant aquifer, as determined by the Department of Health.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Honolulu Board of Water Supply; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; North Shore Chamber of Commerce; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; IATSE Local 665; Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Kupuna for the Moopuna; Green Party of Hawai'i; Ka Lahui Hawai'i; Free Access Coalition; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the County of Kaua'i Department of Public Works. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health and Department of Environmental Services of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that the State's aquifers are essential to public health and safety. Aquifers provide source water for domestic uses, agricultural irrigation, industrial uses, cultural practices, and environmental habitats through springs and wetlands. This measure strives to protect the State's aquifers by preventing possible environmental contamination through landfills and other waste or disposal facilities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 969, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 969, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 102 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 379

The purpose of this measure is to require newly installed or modified individual wastewater systems that are near the shoreline, or likely to pollute groundwater, to include denitrification capacity.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Coral Reef Alliance; The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i and Palmyra; WAI: Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations; Hawai'i State Association of Counties; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health and Hawai'i Association of REALTORS.

Your Committee finds that wastewater treatment systems near shorelines have an increased potential to contaminate nearshore waters and coral reef systems and that a wastewater treatment system with denitrification capacity may protect these resources from contamination.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion. Your Committee notes the concerns raised regarding the criteria for determining whether a wastewater system needs a denitrification capacity and respectfully requests the Department of Health to review the proposed criteria in this measure and provide recommendations for more appropriate criteria as this measure advances through the legislative process.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 379, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 379, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 103 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 798

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify the exemptions to the prohibition on discharging any wastewater or raw sewage into state waters; and
- (2) Exempt treatment plants having a treatment capacity of less than 10,000,000 gallons per day from the prohibition on discharging any wastewater or raw sewage into state waters after December 31, 2026.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; Hawai'i Wai Ola; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Coral Reef Alliance. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that in order to protect Hawaii's waters, it is vital to prohibit practices that discharge wastewater and raw sewage. Your Committee further finds that existing law prohibits the discharge of any treated or raw sewage into state waters, with certain exemptions. The intent of this measure is to clarify what discharge is subject to the law and what is exempt.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the exemption for treatment plants that produce clean energy;
- (2) Changing the maximum number of gallons per day limit to an unspecified number;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 798, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 798, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 104 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 879

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the maximum grant amount for the Cesspool Compliance Pilot Grant Project from \$20,000 to \$30,000;
- (2) Establish positions within the Department of Health for the Cesspool Compliant Pilot Grant Project; and
- (3) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Department of Health; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Public Access to SunScreens Coalition; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Coral Reef Alliance; Hawai'i Wai Ola; WAI: Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations; and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that all cesspools in the State are required to be upgraded or converted to an approved wastewater system or connected to a sewage system by 2050. Your Committee further finds that although Act 153, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, established a Cesspool Compliance Pilot Grant Project to assist certain low- and moderate-income property owners with the cost of upgrading or converting cesspools, the maximum grant amount may be insufficient to cover all upgrade or conversion costs. Your Committee believes that increasing the maximum grant amount, as proposed by this measure, will ensure the State meets its goal of upgrading or converting all cesspools by 2050.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the owner or lessee shall provide receipts of payment made to wastewater and plumbing supply companies to satisfy certain requirements for grant awards;
- (2) Changing the maximum grant amount for the Cesspool Compliance Pilot Grant Project to an unspecified amount;
- (3) Removing the appropriation establishing a position within the Department of Health;
- (4) Changing the appropriation to fund the Cesspool Compliance Pilot Grant Project to an unspecified amount;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the appropriation amount of \$5,000,000 to fund the Cesspool Compliance Pilot Grant Project.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 879, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 879, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 105 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 338

The purpose of this measure is to clarify that adjustments linked to premium interest rates for high-yield credit are mechanisms for reasonable and appropriate incremental adjustments that the Public Utilities Commission may include in the rate payable to producers of nonfossil-fuel-generated electricity.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State Energy Office; Public Utilities Commission; Hawaii Clean Power Alliance; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaiian Electric. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committee finds that renewable energy from independent power producers and community-based renewable producers will help achieve the State's renewable energy goals. Your Committee further finds that the procurement, contracting, and delivery of operational renewable energy facilities and community-based renewable energy projects are in jeopardy due to financial issues outside of the control of these power producers. Currently, these producers face the prospect of securing loans with a higher-than-average interest rate to finance renewable energy facilities or community-based renewable energy projects. This measure is intended to assist independent power producers by allowing them to be paid incrementally from increased rates to reflect increased costs from a premium interest rate for high-yield credit.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Public Utilities Commission may only approve a rate adjustment if the producer can demonstrate that the adjustment is required by clear and convincing evidence;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 338, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 338, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 106 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 376

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Accelerate the deadlines for required upgrades, conversions, or connections of:
 - (A) The 13,821 priority level 1 cesspools in the State to 2035, with certain exceptions; and
 - (B) The 12,367 priority level 2 cesspools in the State to 2040;
- (2) Appropriate funds for the Cesspool Compliance Pilot Grant Program; and
- (3) Re-establish a Cesspool Upgrade, Conversion, or Connection Income Tax Credit.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Hawai'i State Association of Counties; The Nature Conservancy Hawai'i and Palmyra; Hawai'i Wai Ola; WAI: Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Health; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that cesspools are antiquated, substandard systems that pollute Hawaii's waters and contribute to environmental harm across the State. Your Committee further finds that the State must expedite its efforts to upgrade, convert, or connect certain cesspools. This measure addresses this need by accelerating the deadlines for the required upgrades, conversions, or connections of priority level 1 and priority level 2 cesspools to 2035 and 2040, respectively.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the appropriation for the Cesspool Compliance Pilot Grant Program;
- (2) Removing the Cesspool Upgrade, Conversion, or Connection Income Tax Credit;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 376, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 376, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 107 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 243

The purpose of this measure is to require certain measures that ensure solar conduit- and electrical panel-readiness for new residential construction offered for sale at fair market value and electric vehicle-readiness when an electrical panel and parking area are installed.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State Energy Office; Green Party of Hawai'i; Citizens Climate Lobby Hawai'i; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; 350Hawaii.org; Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association; Hawaii Solar Energy Association; Alliance for Automotive Innovation; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; Chamber of Sustainable Commerce; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from NAIOP Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that there is an urgent need to encourage the rapid transition to renewable energy. Your Committee further finds that this measure would better accomplish this need by establishing a Streamlined Grid-Ready Home Interconnection Process that supports the rapid adoption of clean energy technologies and ensures power system reliability.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting its contents and inserting the contents of H.B. No. 340, a measure heard and considered by your Committee that:
 - (A) Requires the Public Utilities Commission to establish a Streamlined Grid-Ready Home Interconnection Process; and
 - (B) Authorizes the use of the Hawaii Electricity Reliability Surcharge for cost recovery of certain expenses of the Hawaii Electricity Reliability Administrator associated with the Streamlined Grid-Ready Home Interconnection Process;
- (2) Changing the deadline for the Public Utilities Commission to establish the Streamlined Grid-Ready Home Interconnection Process to October 1, 2026;
- (3) Changing the cost-sharing fee for service upgrades to an unspecified amount and deleting the deadline for completion of service upgrades;

- (4) Adding requirements obligating regulated electric utilities to allow for the interconnection and utilization of vehicle-to-grid capabilities;
- (5) Removing the provision authorizing the use of the Hawaii Electricity Reliability Surcharge for cost recovery of certain expenses;
- (6) Requiring reports on the status of the Streamlined Grid-Ready Home Interconnection Process to be submitted to the Legislature instead of the Public Utilities Commission;
- (7) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 243, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 243, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Housing.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 108 Transportation on H.B. No. 1158

The purpose of this measure is to limit civil liability for private individuals who assist in providing firefighting services in and around commercial harbors and waterfront facilities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and The Maritime Group.

Your Committee finds that there are privately owned assets and vessels equipped with fire monitors and water cannons that could be used in fighting fires in and around waterfront facilities. However, there have been instances where private individuals responsible for these assets and vessels have declined to assist county fire departments in providing firefighting services because of concerns over possible civil liability. This measure seeks to facilitate participation from private individuals who can provide assistance to county fire departments in certain situations by limiting liability except for damages as may result from gross negligence or wanton acts or omissions.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the limitation of civil liability is for individuals who render firefighting services with a firefighting vessel;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1158, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1158, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Public Safety.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

SCRep. 109 Transportation on H.B. No. 1464

The purpose of this measure is to provide access by owners of motor vehicles and independent repair facilities to motor vehicle manufacturer diagnostic and repair information and diagnostic repair tools otherwise made available to dealers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from O'Reilly Auto Parts; Autocare Association; 808 Safety; Coalition for Automotive Repair Equality; LKQ Corporation; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Alliance for Automotive Innovation and Hawai'i Automobile Dealers Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Motorcycle Industry Council.

Your Committee finds that this measure allows vehicle owners and independent repair shops to have the same critical repair and maintenance data as motor vehicle dealers. This will allow vehicle owners to choose where to have their vehicle repaired and may lead to more affordable repairs.

Your Committee respectfully requests that a possible exemption for motorcycles be considered as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have established various requirements for manufacturers of vehicles sold in the State, except for manufacturers of model year 2022 or later vehicles;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1464, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1464, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

SCRep. 110 Transportation on H.B. No. 1301

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal the Public Utilities Commission's authority to regulate ratemaking for motor carriers;
- (2) Apply the existing framework regulating motor carriers onto transportation network companies; and
- (3) Repeal the chapter regulating transportation network companies.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Roberts Hawaii, Inc. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Uber; Lyft Inc.; and Hawaii Association for Justice. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Public Utilities Commission.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii is the only state in the United States regulating motor carriers. In 1995, the Interstate Commerce Commission Termination Act of 1995 extended Hawaii's exemption from the preemption of states' rights to govern the transportation of freight, preserving Hawaii's full jurisdiction over intrastate motor carriers of passengers and property. Although Hawaii's law provides exemptions, your Committee believes that the law needs to be updated and modernized to recognize and accommodate for advancements in technology.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Reinstating the Public Utilities Commission's authority to regulate ratemaking for motor carriers;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1301, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1301, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

SCRep. 111 Transportation on H.B. No. 226

The purpose of this measure is to lower the minimum light transmittance levels permitted on car window glazing materials from thirty-five percent to twenty percent.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the T&T Tinting Specialists, Inc. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that rising global temperatures and increased heat in the interior of vehicles due to climate change have become a growing concern for public health and safety. Your Committee further finds that existing vehicle window tinting regulations fail to adequately address the escalating heat buildup in cars, leading to discomfort and potential health risks for drivers and passengers.

Your Committee notes the safety concerns that darker tints can reduce visibility, both into and out of the vehicle, making it harder for drivers to see other vehicles or pedestrians, as well as difficult for law enforcement to see into the vehicle to conduct safety checks. Your Committee believes that existing tinting requirements should be updated to current climate changes, but also believes that protections should be in place to ensure that law enforcement officers are able to conduct any necessary safety checks at traffic stops.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Prohibiting a person from installing, mounting, adhering, affixing, or using a sun screening device in conjunction with glazing material of a motor vehicle with mirrored, metallic, red, yellow, amber, or blue tint;
- (2) Requiring all drivers and passengers of motor vehicles with applied tint to roll down their windows when stopped by a law enforcement officer at a traffic stop;
- (3) Reinstating the existing authorized light transmittance percentage for sun screening devices for front side wing vents and windows;
- (4) Specifying that sun screening devices for side windows at the rear of the driver and rear windows on sedans, vans, minivans, trucks, and buses are allowed to have a light transmittance of no less than twenty percent;
- (5) Specifying sun screening requirements do not apply to side windows to the rear of the driver and rear windows on sedans, in addition to vans, minivans, trucks, or buses;
- (6) Increasing the minimum and maximum fines for:
 - (A) An owner of a motor vehicle violating sun screening device requirements by \$50 each to \$300 and \$550, respectively; and
 - (B) The installer of any sun screening device in violating of sun screening device requirements by \$200 each to \$700 and \$1,200, respectively;
- (7) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 226, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 226, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

SCRep. 112 Transportation on H.B. No. 1159

The purpose of this measure is to clarify the requirement of vessels to evacuate a commercial harbor upon order by the harbor master during an emergency and to establish penalties for noncompliance.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Longline Association; Holo Holo Charters Inc.; Captain Andy's Sailing Adventures; and Blue Dolphin Charters.

Your Committee finds that proper evacuations during emergencies could help mitigate damage to port infrastructure and may support efficient restoration of port operations. This measure will increase safety and operations at commercial harbors by ensuring that persons in charge of vessels follow the harbor master's order to evacuate a commercial harbor.

Your Committee notes that due to the smaller nature of Hawaii longline vessels, forcing these vessels into the potential path of a dangerous hurricane puts lives at risk. Your Committee will continue to work with stakeholders as this measure moves through the legislative process to examine potentially expanding exemptions, particularly for vessels with approval from the United States Coast Guard.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and

(2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1159, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1159, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Public Safety.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

SCRep. 113 Transportation on H.B. No. 1083

The purpose of this measure is to clarify that the requirements for the securing of mooring lines in state commercial harbors shall not apply to certain vessels.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Hawaii Longline Association and General Contractors Association of Hawaii. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Holo Holo Charters; Captain Andy's Sailing; and Blue Dolphin Charters.

Your Committee finds that this measure exempts government-owned or government-sponsored vessels, training vessels, and fishing vessels from the requirements that the securing of mooring lines from vessels to the State's commercial docks, wharves, piers, quays, and landings be performed by labor that is subject to collective bargaining.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committees on Labor and Consumer Protection & Commerce, should they deliberate on this measure, to work with the Department of Transportation in potentially expanding the exemptions under this measure to include other vessels, as necessary.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1083, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1083, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Labor.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Muraoka, Pierick). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

SCRep. 114 Transportation on H.B. No. 1165

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the counties to sell or dispose of property bordering the ocean when the Department of Transportation requests the acquisition of the property for state highway purposes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that this measure will provide a narrow exception to the prohibition on counties selling property that is bordering the ocean if it is for state highway purposes, such as for construction, maintenance, or realignment of state highways.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Updating the severability clause;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1165, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1165, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, 2 (Muraoka, Pierick). Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

SCRep. 115 Transportation on H.B. No. 1304

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Transportation to adopt rules regarding a clean fuel standard for alternative fuels in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Neste; Biotechnology Innovation Organization; and Coalition Earth. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Hawaiian Electric.

Your Committee finds that clean fuel policies drive the adoption of lower carbon transportation technologies, resulting in advanced competition and a diversity of fuel options for consumers. Your Committee further finds that a clean fuel standard would enable the State to meet its decarbonization goals in regard to transportation fuels.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that alternative fuels technology is an emerging technology in the State and as such, the financial impacts of adoption are not easily discernable.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1304, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1304, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, 2 (Muraoka, Pierick). Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

SCRep. 116 Transportation on H.B. No. 1302

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Human Resources Development to create and implement a comprehensive transportation demand management program for all state employees with the goal of reducing vehicle emissions and single occupancy vehicle commutes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Energy Office; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Get Fit Kauai; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development.

Your Committee finds that ground transportation makes up thirty-eight percent of transportation emissions in the State. Incentivizing public transit and active modes of transportation over private vehicles for state workers' commutes will not only reduce carbon emissions in the State but promote healthy habits and increase well-being through greater physical activity.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that the Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization may additionally benefit from a position within their organization to assist in the implementation and administration of the statewide transportation demand management program proposed in this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1302, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1302, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Labor.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, 2 (Muraoka, Pierick). Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

SCRep. 117 Transportation on H.B. No. 1161

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a State Mileage-Based Road Usage Charge Subaccount within the State Highway Fund;
- (2) Authorize counties to establish a county mileage-based road usage charge for electric vehicles beginning July 1, 2028;
- (3) Establish a process for the counties to adopt a per-mile rate by ordinance;
- (4) Clarify the use of monies collected under the state and county road usage charges;
- (5) Set a default state and county road usage charge when the charge cannot be calculated due to incomplete information; and
- (6) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; one member of the Maui County Council; and Department of Customer Services of the City and County of Honolulu. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii and Alliance for Automotive Innovation.

Your Committee finds that in 2023, the Legislature enacted a small-scale per-mile road usage charge program for electric vehicles. This measure would build off the success of the 2023 program and allow, among other things, the counties to begin transitioning to a mileage-based road usage charge as a replacement for the county motor fuel tax.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the county mileage-based road usage charge is paid each year following the most recent registration, rather than inspection;
- (2) Changing the appropriations to unspecified amounts;
- (3) Updating the fiscal year for the appropriation for the implementation of the State Mileage-Based Road Usage Charge Program;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the following appropriation amounts:

- (1) \$1,700,000 for the implementation of the State Mileage-Based Road Usage Charge Program; and
- (2) \$200,600 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$1,542,480 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for the continued implementation of the State Mileage-Based Road Usage Charge.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1161, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1161, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, 2 (Muraoka, Pierick). Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

SCRep. 118 Education on H.B. No. 329

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify that the School Facilities Authority (Authority) is responsible for certain development, planning, and construction projects for prekindergarten, preschool, and child care facilities, as well as workforce housing;
- (2) Allow the Authority to use the Department of Education for certain recruitment and hiring responsibilities;
- (3) Allow the Authority to partner with public and private development agencies to develop prekindergarten facilities; and
- (4) Clarify the applicability of the Sunshine Law to the School Facilities Authority Board.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Early Childhood Action Strategy; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the School Facilities Authority and Department of

Community Services of the City and County of Honolulu. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Public First Law Center. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Education; and Office of Information Practices.

Your Committee finds that the School Facilities Authority is entrusted with responsibilities relating to the development, planning, and construction of public school projects. This measure amends certain statutes governing the School Facilities Authority, thereby allowing the Authority to carry out its responsibilities with greater efficiency and streamlining school development while addressing the critical needs of students, their families, and the education workforce.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have repealed language stating that all other provisions of chapter 92, Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall apply to school facilities authority board workgroups and subcommittee and amending the preamble to reflect this amendment;
- (2) Specifying the responsibilities of the School Facilities Authority relating to the development, planning, and construction of new or renovated prekindergarten, preschool, and child care facilities and workforce housing for educators and other education workers in schools serving prekindergarten under chapter 302L, Hawaii Revised Statutes, which relates to the early learning system;
- (3) Authorizing the School Facilities Authority to develop workforce housing for teachers on land not owned by the Department of Education;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 329, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 329, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 119 Education on H.B. No. 330

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Place oversight of the School Impact Fee Program's governance structure under the School Facilities Authority Board; and
- (2) Allow the School Facilities Authority Board to dissolve a school impact district without a public hearing.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Hawai'i YIMBY. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the School Facilities Authority and Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; and Grassroot Institute of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the existing governance structure of the School Impact Fee Program is misaligned. As the School Facilities Authority is currently responsible for administering the program, your Committee believes that it is appropriate that the School Facilities Authority Board be the governing entity overseeing the school impact fee program rather than the Board of Education.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have authorized the School Facilities Authority Board to dissolve a school impact district without a public hearing;
- (2) Directing the School Facilities Authority Board to carry out the processes and procedures conducted by the Board of Education to dissolve a school impact district upon the transfer of oversight of the School Impact Fee Program;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 330, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 330, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Housing.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Muraoka). Excused, 1 (Kapela).

SCRep. 120 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 380

The purpose of this measure is to repeal existing laws that:

- (1) Declare the sale of cigarettes, tobacco products, and electronic smoking devices a statewide concern; and
- (2) Preempt all local ordinances and regulations that regulate the sale of cigarettes, tobacco products, and electronic smoking devices.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Health; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; one member of the Maui County Council; Hawai'i State Association of Counties; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; The Friends of Kamalani and Lydgate Park; Youth Council of the Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i; Hawaii Primary Care Association; AlohaCare; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i; Hamakua Health Center; Hawaii COPD Coalition; Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Hawaii Dental Association; American Heart Association; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; American Lung Association; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Marukin Market; Number One Store; VOLCANO Vape Shops; Cigar Association of America, Inc.; Discount Smoke Shop Hawaii; ABC Stores; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Taxpayers Protection Alliance.

Your Committee finds that tobacco use remains the leading cause of preventable death in the State. In Hawaii alone, tobacco use claims 1,100 lives each year and creates \$336,000,000 in annual health care costs directly attributed to smoking. Most persons start smoking before the age of eighteen, with many beginning tobacco use before high school.

Your Committee further finds that the State is experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Usage rates vary across the State. For example, while ten percent of the adult population of the State smokes, several communities have much higher rates of smoking: Puna/Ka'u has a rate of nineteen percent and Nanakuli/Wai'anae has a rate of twenty-one percent. These geographic tobacco-related disparities are a serious health problem in Hawaii. This measure

allows local communities to develop local solutions for their unique circumstances by allowing counties to implement more restrictive regulations for the sale of cigarettes, tobacco products, and electronic smoking devices.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting a savings clause;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 380, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 380, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 1 (Kong). Excused, 1 (Lowen).

SCRep. 121 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 1433

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) For a one-year pilot period beginning on February 5, 2026:
 - (A) Modify the notice requirements when terminating a rental agreement on or after February 5, 2026;
 - (B) Require tenants and landlords to engage in mediation and delay filing an action for summary possession if a tenant schedules or attempts to schedule mediation; and
 - (C) Require landlords to provide specific information to tenants; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the Judiciary to contract for mediation services.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Mediation Center of the Pacific; and nine individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS.

Your Committee finds that Act 57, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021 (Act 57), established a temporary Pre-Litigation Mediation Program to address the potential high volume of evictions as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Through the program, mediation assisted many low-income renters to avoid eviction or allowed a negotiated move-out that avoided further judicial proceedings and judgments, while also ensuring that landlords received their payments. The Program succeeded in mediating agreements for eighty-five percent of disputes, allowing tenants to remain in their residences and providing stability to their housing situation.

Your Committee further finds that even after the expiration of Act 57, mediation has shown to be an effective tool in amicably resolving eviction disputes. After the expiration of Act 57, the Mediation Center of the Pacific continued to offer mediation services for eviction disputes. The Center mediated ninety-six early eviction cases with ninety percent resulting in final agreements, which includes payment plans or providing tenants with more time to find alternative living arrangements. This measure will reimplement some of the successful provisions of Act 57 by requiring mediation between tenants and landlords to prevent evictions, thereby allowing families to remain in stable housing and children to continue to attend their community schools and maintain their social connections.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the length of time for which a landlord must delay the filing of a suit for summary possession when mediation is scheduled and a tenant participates, from twenty days to an unspecified number of days;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1433, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1433, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, 1 (Lowen).

SCRep. 122 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 438

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Due Process in Immigration Proceedings Program within the Judiciary to provide legal representation to individuals in immigration-related proceedings in immigration court.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; one member of the Honolulu City Council; IATSE Local 665; UNITE HERE Local 5; Indivisible Hawaii; Refugee & Immigration Law Clinic; Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights; The Legal Clinic; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; North Hawaii Community Action Network; Hawaii Government Employees Association; AFSCME Local 152; AFL-CIO; HCANSpeaks!; COFACAN; Oahu Filipino Community Council; Hawaii Friends of Civil Rights; Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii; Roots Reborn; Hawai'i Democratic Party; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; Fujiwara & Rosenbaum, LLC; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Imua Alliance; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; ACLU Hawai'i; A.L.O.H.A. Latinos; Hawai'i Workers Center; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaiian Islands Republican Women and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary.

Your Committee finds that the State should ensure that all Hawaii residents, regardless of citizenship status, have certain due process protections. Your Committee further finds that many individuals facing deportation or other immigration-related proceedings lack legal representation. This measure addresses this need by establishing a Due Process in Immigration Proceedings Program to provide representation to individuals in immigration-related proceedings.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Judiciary shall administer funding to entities contracted to implement and operate the program, rather than administer it directly;
- (2) Adding a requirement that entities contracted to implement and operate the program partner with the University of Hawaii at Manoa William S. Richardson School of Law; and

(3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the appropriation amount of \$750,000 for the Due Process in Immigration Proceedings Program.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 438, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 438, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 123 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 73

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit:

- (1) The Department of Land and Natural Resources and Board of Land and Natural Resources from disposing of or approving the use or setting aside of public lands for the establishment of any immigration detention facility; and
- (2) State and county agencies from contracting with the federal government or processing any permit for this purpose.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; one member of the Honolulu City Council; IATSE Local 665; UNITE HERE Local 5; Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights; The Legal Clinic; Indivisible Hawaii; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; HCANSpeaks!; COFACAN; Hawaii Friends of Civil Rights; Oahu Filipino Community Council; Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii; Roots Reborn; Hawaii Democratic Party; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Imua Alliance; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; A.L.O.H.A. Latinos; Hawai'i Workers Center; Fujiwara & Rosenbaum, LLC; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaiian Islands Republican Women and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that using state lands for immigration detention facilities contradicts Hawaii's values of welcoming all people regardless of immigration status and diverts critical resources away from affordable housing, sustainable development, and infrastructure improvements. This measure prohibits use or setting aside of public lands, contracting with the federal government, or processing of a permit for the purpose of establishing immigration detention facilities.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 73 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 124 Water & Land on H.B. No. 915

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Board of Agriculture to investigate and survey the availability of non-potable water;
- (2) Authorize the Commission on Water Resource Management to require the use of dual line water supply systems in new residential and mixed-used developments located in designated water management areas; and
- (3) Include residential and mixed-use developments in irrigation projects under certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Agriculture. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that authorizing the Commission on Water Resource Management to require dual line water supply systems in new residential and mixed-use developments as a condition for issuing permits in designated water management areas will better assist the State in its water conservation goals while ensuring the health and safety of its people.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the designation of a recycled water manager as part of the permitting process for irrigation of a single-family residential home;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes the concern raised by the Department of Agriculture in testimony that by including residential and mixed-use developments in irrigation projects, this measure would require the Department's irrigation program, which provides irrigation water to commercial-scale farms, to provide services for which it was never intended and use resources it does not currently have. As such, your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Agriculture & Food systems, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider whether the Department of Agriculture is the appropriate department to operate and maintain residential and mixed-use developments in irrigation projects or whether, as the Department suggests, county departments of water supply or public works may be more suitable.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 915, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 915, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 125 Water & Land on H.B. No. 818

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Waiakea Peninsula Community Development District and transfer lands and leases within the Waiakea Peninsula Community Development District from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Hawaii Community Development Authority.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i; Planning Department of the County of Hawai'i; Hawaii Community Development Authority; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that the Waiakea Peninsula is located near Hilo town and the cruise ship terminal. Your Committee further finds that aging infrastructure, underutilized spaces, and ongoing security concerns have hindered the area's ability to thrive. Your Committee believes that establishing a Waiakea Peninsula Community Development District will renew and revitalize the area and provide residents and visitors with much needed recreational, educational, and entertainment facilities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have transferred lands and leases within the Waiakea Peninsula Community Development District from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Hawaii Community Development Authority;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 818, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 818, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 126 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1494

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Lapse appropriations of general obligation bond funds previously authorized for the planning, design, and construction of a stadium in Halawa by the Stadium Authority;
- (2) Authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds for a new stadium on the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa campus; and
- (3) Rename the Stadium Authority and Stadium Development District as the Halawa Redevelopment Authority and Halawa Redevelopment District, respectively.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Accounting and General Services; Aloha Stadium; and Stanford Carr Development. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that the New Aloha Stadium and Entertainment District project has reached a critical milestone and has recently finalized selection of a proposed developer and is negotiating for a development agreement to begin the project. Your Committee further finds that relocating the site of the new stadium to the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa campus would unnecessarily delay the construction of a new stadium, as a new environmental impact statement would need to be completed and the new location would face significant additional costs to meet the engineering requirements for the construction of a stadium that would likely be unable to support the community expectations for a new stadium.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the location of the new stadium to an unspecified location;
- (2) Authorizing the Halawa Redevelopment Authority, rather than the University of Hawaii, to expend any funds from a general obligation bond issued pursuant to this measure;
- (3) Reverting to existing statutory language to allow the Halawa Redevelopment Authority to develop, construct, and manage a new stadium;
- (4) Authorizing the Halawa Development Authority to sell the naming rights to a stadium located within the Halawa Development District and operated by the Authority;
- (5) Allowing the Halawa Redevelopment Special Fund to accept donations from private parties and the sale of naming rights;
- (6) Allowing the display of the name of a private entity who has purchased the naming rights to a stadium located in the Halawa Redevelopment District and operated by the Halawa Redevelopment Authority along the exterior of the stadium;
- (7) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Higher Education, should it choose to deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriate location for the stadium.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1494, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1494, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Higher Education.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 127 Tourism on H.B. No. 594

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require hotelkeepers to provide adequate notice of service disruptions to guests and third-party vendors under certain conditions; and
- (2) Allow for recovery of damages.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from UNITE HERE Local 5. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that this measure would protect consumers and help Hawaii maintain a positive image even among visitors who face hotel service disruptions during their stays.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding a preamble;
- (2) Clarifying the conditions under which a hotelkeeper must provide notification to consumers of service disruptions;
- (3) Specifying that regardless of whether the hotelkeeper provides the required notice, a consumer may terminate any remaining period of a reservation, booking, or agreement for the use of a room or hotel service without being assessed a fee, penalty, or other charge or forfeiting certain deposits;
- (4) Modifying the amount of damages that a hotelkeeper must pay to an injured consumer;
- (5) Allowing a private right of action by an injured consumer;
- (6) Amending the definition of "service disruption";
- (7) Adding a provision that protects against the impairment of contracts;
- (8) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (9) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Tourism that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 594, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 594, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 128 Tourism on H.B. No. 973

The purpose of this measure is to require transient accommodations brokers and any other persons or entities to:

- (1) Offer, list, advertise, or display a transient accommodations rental rate that includes all resort fees required for the furnishing of transient accommodations; and
- (2) Include all applicable taxes and fees imposed by a government on the stay in the total price to be paid before a consumer reserves the furnishing of transient accommodations.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Hotel Alliance and American Hotel & Lodging Association. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committee finds that the establishment of a single standard for a mandatory display of fees across the tourism ecosystem's entirety--from hotels, motels, and short-term rental accommodations to online travel agencies, metasearch sites, and short-term rental platforms--would prevent consumers from being misled and ensure a level playing field across the tourism industry.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the requirement that only if transient accommodations brokers and all other persons or entities knew or should have known that they offered, listed, advertised, or displayed a transient accommodations rental rate in violation of this measure would they be subject to civil penalties;
- (2) Changing its effective date to January 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Tourism that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 973, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 973, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 129 Tourism/Housing on H.B. No. 604

The purpose of this measure is to increase transient accommodations tax rates by one percent, beginning on January 1, 2026, and deposit the increased revenues into the Hawaiian Home General Loan Fund established under the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920, as amended.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Grassroot Institute of Hawaii. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committees find that increasing the transient accommodations tax rate by one percent would aid the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands in addressing its extensive waiting list of applicants through a source of funds that is not currently available to the Department.

Your Committees have amended this measure by changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Tourism and Housing that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 604, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 604, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Tourism: Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Matsumoto). Noes, none. Excused, none.

Housing: Ayes, 5. Noes, 1 (Muraoka). Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 130 Labor on H.B. No. 806

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Honolulu Police Department and Department of Law Enforcement to conduct sting operations on Oahu to enforce fireworks ordinances or laws. This measure also authorizes a court to order the forfeiture of one-half of any pension of an Employees' Retirement System member, former member, or retiree upon conviction of the individual for a felony related to certain uses of prohibited fireworks.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; and United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received comments on this measure from two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the State's communities deserve to live in peace and security without the widespread use of illegal fireworks that pose an extreme danger and lethal risk to public health and safety. Your Committee believes this measure is an effective approach in deterring the use of illegal fireworks by using intelligence-led policing and criminal surveillance of illegal fireworks.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language which would have authorized a court to order the forfeiture of one-half of any pension of an Employees' Retirement System member, former member, or retirant upon conviction of the individual for a felony related to certain uses of prohibited fireworks;
- (2) Removing the appropriation to the Honolulu Police Department;
- (3) Changing the appropriation to the Department of Law Enforcement to an unspecified amount;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,000,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$1,000,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 806, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 806, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 131 Labor on H.B. No. 864

The purpose of this measure is to allow newly graduated former students to be eligible for the State's workers' compensation coverage during the summer following their high school graduation while participating in work-based learning programs sponsored by the Department of Education.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education and Maui Chamber of Commerce.

Your Committee finds that a recent high school graduate is no longer considered a student for purposes of workers' compensation coverage while participating in a Department of Education-sponsored work-based learning opportunity during the summer following graduation. Your Committee further finds that employers and organizations of these department-sponsored programs incur the additional cost to cover these individuals under their workers' compensation liability and therefore, may be hesitant in hiring these recent graduates. Your Committee believes this measure supports the participation of newly graduated high school students in Department of Education-sponsored work-based learning programs by including these individuals in the State's workers' compensation coverage during the summer following their high school graduation.

Your Committee amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 864, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 864, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Education.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 132 Labor on H.B. No. 1183

The purpose of this measure is to include certain law enforcement administrators and employees of the Department of Law Enforcement as Class A members in the Employees' Retirement System.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Employees' Retirement System.

Your Committee finds that it is important to have equitable retirement benefits for service members within the Department of Law Enforcement. Your Committee further finds that when a Class A service member is appointed as Director, Deputy Director, Sheriff, or investigator in the Department of Law Enforcement, they no longer qualify as Class A members and must forfeit the benefit of receiving 2.5 percent of their average final compensation for pension that other Class A members in the Department of Law Enforcement are entitled to. Your Committee believes that this measure ensures equitable retirement benefits in the Department of Law Enforcement by including these positions as Class A members in the Employees' Retirement System.

Your Committee amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring these positions in the Department of Law Enforcement to contribute 14.2 percent of their compensation to the annuity savings fund;
- (2) Removing language that would have required members to have at least five years of service as Class A members prior to being appointed to one of these positions to qualify as Class A members under this measure;
- (3) Adding language to these positions in statute for the purpose of assessing the employer's accrued liability contributions;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1183, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1183, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 133 Labor on H.B. No. 1182

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Public Utilities Commission to establish preferential rates for the purchase of renewable energy from facilities that utilize labor paid at prevailing wages.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Energy Office and Hawaii Clean Power Alliance. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaiian Electric. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Public Utilities Commission.

Your Committee finds that providing tax incentives for large-scale renewable energy facilities can support the State in achieving its clean energy goal of having a one hundred percent renewable portfolio standard by 2045. Your Committee further finds that growing the workforce and developing career pathways in this industry can help support a clean energy economy. Your Committee believes that this measure supports the State's clean energy goals by authorizing the Public Utilities Commission to establish preferential rates for the purchase of renewable energy from facilities that meet certain prevailing wage requirements, as an incentive to support these facilities. Your Committee does note that there are some concerns about whether this measure would increase prices for rate payers.

Your Committee amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider issues raised by the Public Utilities Commission in its testimony on:

- (1) Whether renewable energy facilities that pay prevailing wages to out-of-state workers would be entitled to preferential rates under this measure; and
- (2) The ambiguity of whether the preferential rates contemplated in this measure benefit the consumer or the producer of electricity.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1182, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1182, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4; Ayes with Reservations (Kapela). Noes, 2 (Kong, Reyes Oda). Excused, none.

SCRep. 134 Housing on H.B. No. 286

The purpose of this measure is to increase the maximum annual deduction for contributions to, and maximum account levels for, individual housing accounts.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Maui Chamber of Commerce and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that as the cost of housing increases, the State must continue to assist residents in finding methods of increasing options for homeownership. Saving for a down payment on a home loan continues to be a barrier for many Hawaii residents, as there are limited numbers of programs available to assist in this endeavor. This measure increases the contribution levels and maximum account levels for individual housing accounts to better reflect current housing prices and further encourage prospective first-time homeowners to save for a down payment and closing costs.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 286, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 286, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 135 Housing on H.B. No. 949

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify that a partner or member that is a partnership or limited liability company that has been allocated a Low-Income Housing Tax Credit may either further allocate the credit or transfer, sell, or assign all or a portion of the credit to any taxpayer; and
- (2) Extend the sunset date of Act 129, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016, relating to the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Mark Development, Inc.; EAH Housing; Ahe Group LLC; NAIOP Hawaii; Central Pacific Bank; and Kobayashi Group. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the expansion of the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program is vital to addressing the ongoing shortage of affordable housing in the State. Your Committee believes that expanding the pool of investors for state tax credits will enhance the ability of affordable housing developers to raise equity efficiently, thereby leading to faster project funding, less reliance on other financing sources, and enhanced affordability for residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying the timeframe for reporting the transfer, sale, or assignment of the credit to the Department of Taxation; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee notes the request by the Department of Taxation to have this measure apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025, rather than taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024, to provide sufficient time for the Department to implement the changes proposed by this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 949, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 949, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 136 Housing on H.B. No. 1325

The purpose of this measure is to require developers developing affordable housing projects under the Hawaii Housing Development and Finance Corporation completed with state or federal funds that result in the eviction or displacement of tenants in existing rental properties to:

- (1) Grant certain persons displaced or evicted by the proposed affordable housing project the right of first refusal of a comparable unit in the housing project at an affordable rate;
- (2) Establish a fund to provide relocation benefits to displaced or evicted tenants;
- (3) Provide information, either directly or through a contracted service, on how to obtain assistance and exercise the right of first refusal; and
- (4) Establish procedures to maintain communication with displaced and evicted tenants.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Tagnawa; Hawai'i Workers Center; Hawai'i YIMBY; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Medical-Legal Partnership for Children in Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation and one individual.

Your Committee finds that efforts to increase affordable housing production have inadvertently led to the displacement of vulnerable tenants, disrupting their social networks and economic stability. Your Committee further finds that residential instability resulting from displacement is linked to negative health and social outcomes, particularly for children and youth. Your Committee believes that it is imperative to balance the development of affordable housing with measures to protect displaced and evicted tenants to ensure their continued access to stable, affordable housing.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring a developer of a proposed housing project to either offer the displaced or evicted tenant the right of first refusal for a comparable unit in the proposed housing project or establish a fund and create a relocation program to provide relocation benefits;
- (2) Specifying that if a developer chooses to provide relocation benefits, a displaced or evicted tenant may choose to receive either three separate payments with each payment equal to no less than one month's rent in a comparable unit or a lump sum equal to no less than three months' rent;
- (3) Clarifying communication requirements between developers and displaced or evicted tenants;
- (4) Clarifying that federal regulations for federal programs for affordable housing that offer greater tenant relocation payment and assistance control;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1325, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1325, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 137 Housing on H.B. No. 1409

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Define transit-oriented development for purposes of state implementation of transit-oriented development;
- (2) Incentivize development in county-designated transit-oriented development areas; and
- (3) Allocate a minimum percentage of the Rental Housing Revolving Fund for certain mixed-income rental housing projects or units.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Hawai'i YIMBY; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Holomua Collaborative; and Housing Hawai'i's Future. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State's housing crisis is exacerbated by a significant demand-supply imbalance, particularly in urban areas. Your Committee further finds that transit-oriented development offers a critical solution by promoting higher-density housing near public transit. Transit-oriented development not only enhances public transit ridership and reduces greenhouse gas emissions, but also supports economic equity by improving access to housing, employment, and essential services for low- and moderate-income households. This measure encourages strategic investment in regional infrastructure and the removal of restrictive development standards that will foster vibrant, walkable communities and reduce the urban sprawl.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have required development in a county-designated transit-oriented development zone to have priority for financing under certain circumstances and instead including these requirements under the definition of "transit-supportive density";
- (2) Clarifying the types of mixed-income rental projects in an area that satisfies transit-supportive density requirements that receive prioritized funding from the Rental Housing Revolving Fund;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1409, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1409, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 138 Housing on H.B. No. 1317

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Workforce Housing Regulatory Sandbox Program within the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to expedite permitting and regulatory requirements for workforce housing projects; and
- (2) Establish an advisory council within the Workforce Housing Regulatory Sandbox Program to provide guidance and oversight.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation and Hawaii Chamber of Commerce.

Your Committee finds that the State continues to face a severe housing shortage, with a critical need for workforce housing to support the State's economy and provide affordable living options for essential workers. Your Committee further finds that despite efforts to streamline permitting and increase land availability, bureaucratic challenges have hindered progress. Your Committee believes that a regulatory sandbox offers a pathway to foster innovative housing solutions and accelerate the development of workforce housing throughout the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that notwithstanding any other law, rule, ordinance, or code to the contrary, the Workforce Housing Regulatory Sandbox Program (Program) is vested with the authority to waive or temporarily modify permitting processes and other regulatory requirements for eligible workforce housing projects;
- (2) Modifying the membership of the Workforce Housing Regulatory Sandbox Program Advisory Council, including adding the following:
 - (A) The Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, who shall serve as the Chairperson;
 - (B) Each director of a county department of planning or department of planning and permitting, as applicable; and
 - (C) Each director of a county department of public works or department of facility maintenance, as applicable;
- (3) Clarifying that one adult in each household participating in the Program shall work an average of thirty hours or more per week at a business operating in the State;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1317, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1317, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 6; Ayes with Reservations (Grandinetti). Noes, 2 (Muraoka, Pierick). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 139 Housing on H.B. No. 916

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow tax credits claimed under the state Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program to be used to offset taxes imposed by the state transient accommodations tax law in the county where the qualified low-income building is located; and
- (2) Make permanent Act 129, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016, relating to the State Low-Income Housing Tax Credit.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation and Maui Chamber of Commerce. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that this measure significantly expands the pool of investors by allowing affordable housing developers and project partners to attract contributions from entities with transient accommodations tax obligations, not just income tax liabilities. This broader investor base would enhance the ability of affordable housing developers to raise equity efficiently. Increased investor participation can lead to faster project funding, less reliance on other financing sources, and enhanced affordability for residents. This measure also makes the State Low-Income Housing Tax Credit more attractive to businesses, which can further the State's goal of building more low-income housing.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that under the transient accommodations tax law, the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit may be utilized toward a taxpayer's transient accommodations tax liability;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes the request by the Department of Taxation to have this measure be applicable to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2026, rather than taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025, to provide sufficient time for the Department to implement the changes proposed by this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 916, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 916, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committees on Tourism and Economic Development & Technology.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Muraoka). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 140 Housing on H.B. No. 1451

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Affordable Housing Land Inventory Task Force within the Hawaii Community Development Authority to update the Affordable Rental Housing Report and Ten-Year Plan maps, tier tables, and inventories of state lands suitable and available for affordable housing development.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority and Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Community Development Authority and Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii is facing a severe shortage of affordable housing, exacerbated by rising demand and limited land availability for new development. With the growing population and increasing housing costs, there is an urgent need to identify and utilize existing state-owned lands for affordable housing projects. This measure will focus on updating land inventories and identifying suitable lands for development, which will be a helpful tool for the development of new affordable housing inventory throughout the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing as unnecessary a reference to the State Ethics Code, as the State Ethics Commission's longstanding practice is to exclude the activities of provisions of the Code;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1451, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1451, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 2 (Muraoka, Pierick). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 141 Housing on H.B. No. 1298

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to establish a Government Employee Housing Revolving Fund Program and Government Employee Ninety-Nine Year Leasehold Rent-to-Own Program; and
- (2) Establish the Government Employee Housing Revolving Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that there is a critical need to attract and retain State and County employees. Your Committee further finds that rising costs of housing has become a significant barrier to workforce stability, forcing many residents to leave the State in search of more affordable housing opportunities. Your Committee believes that providing affordable housing opportunities on state owned land, particularly in transit-oriented development areas, will enhance the quality of life of government employees, attract qualified candidates, and support the State's broader goals of sustainable growth.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Government Employee Housing Revolving Fund (Revolving Fund) shall be used to provide interim and permanent loans and grants;
- (2) Specifying that sixty percent of available units funded with monies from the Revolving Fund, rather than all, shall be for persons and families with incomes at or below one hundred forty percent of the area median income;
- (3) Specifying that state departments and agencies, instead of nonprofit organizations, are eligible applicants for funding under the Government Employee Housing Revolving Fund Program;
- (4) Authorizing, rather than requiring, the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to credit a portion of rent toward the purchase of a unit under the Government Employee Ninety-Nine Year Lease hold Rent-to-Own Program;
- (5) Exempting, rather than subjecting, design and development contracts for residential condominium units within a transit-oriented development site and construction contracts from the State Procurement Code;
- (6) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that in its testimony, the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation requested \$450,000 out of the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund for the establishment of two full time equivalent (2.00 FTE) to administer the programs established by this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1298, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1298, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Labor.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 2 (Muraoka, Pierick). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 142 Housing/Transportation on H.B. No. 157

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to transfer the public roads of the Villages of Kapolei to the City and County of Honolulu by January 1, 2026; and
- (2) Authorize county police officers to enforce the statewide traffic code on all public streets, roadways, and highways within the State.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu; one member of the Honolulu City Council; Villages of Kapolei Association; and four individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Your Committees find that the transfer of roads within the Villages of Kapolei to the City and County of Honolulu have been delayed for years due to the City and County of Honolulu establishing certain requirements to accept the dedication of the roads. This delay has left many residents of the Villages of

Kapolei uncertain regarding who is responsible for maintenance, repairs, and overall infrastructure management. This measure will resolve a decades old problem for residents of the Villages of Kapolei by requiring the public roads to be transferred no later than January 1, 2026.

Your Committees have requested a formal opinion from the Department of the Attorney General seeking advice on the legality of requiring the City and County of Honolulu to accept the terms of the transfer. Your Committees will continue to work with stakeholders to address any potential legal concerns as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Housing and Transportation that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 157, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 157, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Housing: Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

Transportation: Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

SCRep. 143 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1316

The purpose of this measure is to require the registration and numbering of rental watercraft before they are provided or offered to the public for transiting the navigable waters of a state park.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Outfitters Kauai Ltd; Kayak Adventures Inc; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that there is a robust market of rental kayaks and stand-up paddleboards serving the visitor industry across the State. Your Committee further finds that visitors often enjoy kayaking and stand-up paddleboarding on the navigable waters in the Wailua River State Park on Kauai, Kealahou Bay State Historic Park on Hawaii island, and Ahupuaa O Kahana State Park on Oahu, which are the only state parks with navigable waters. However, the use of these rental kayaks and stand-up paddleboards, particularly for rented kayaks and stand-up paddleboards that are rented from vendors outside of the park boundaries, can create overuse of these waterways, leading to conflicts with local resident users. Your Committee believes that instituting a permitting process for rented water vessels will reduce these conflicts and ensure visitors and residents are able to enjoy the State's natural resources.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Replacing the word "watercraft" with "vessel" to better align with existing regulations;
- (2) Authorizing the Department of Land and Natural Resources to adopt rules to establish conditions of use for rental vessels;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1316, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1316, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 144 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1007

The purpose of this measure is to streamline transit-oriented development infrastructure improvements by making Chapter 206E, Part X, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to transient-oriented development infrastructure improvements, a program under the Hawaii Community Development Authority, rather than districts to be overseen by a board.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; and Hawaii Community Development Authority.

Your Committee finds that the transit-oriented development infrastructure improvement districts established by Act 184, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022 (Act 184), could be more efficiently administered and managed. Your Committee further finds that Act 184 contemplated these districts would be overseen by boards established within each county. However, to date these boards have not been constituted. Your Committee believes that repealing the transit-oriented infrastructure improvement districts and boards and reconstituting them as a program under the Hawaii Community Development Authority will allow for greater collaboration with private entities and federal, state, and county agencies to complete community development plans for the betterment of the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, should it deliberate on this measure, to request the Hawaii Community Development Authority to expand on the fiscal impact of the shift from assessments against real property owners to fees assessed against users in the improvement areas.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1007, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1007, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 145 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1132

The purpose of this measure is to make critical infrastructure information received or maintained by the Office of Homeland Security confidential, except in certain circumstances.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Information Practices. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that defining and clarifying the confidentiality protections afforded to critical infrastructure information will better enable the Office of Homeland Security to ensure the security and resiliency of the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1132, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1132, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Public Safety.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 1 (Iwamoto). Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 146 Water & Land on H.B. No. 299

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Native Resources and Fire Protection Program and Hawaii Invasive Species Council to continue to control and eradicate invasive species in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Agriculture; Hawaii Invasive Species Council; Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Kupuna for the Moopuna; Green Party of Hawai'i; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Kauai Invasive Species Committee; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Hawaii Invasive Species Council was created in 2003 to provide statewide coordination and direction in addressing invasive species. Your Committee further finds that appropriations to the Council are primarily used to provide funding through a competitive grant process to partner organizations dedicated to controlling targeted pests in Hawaii. Your Committee believes that providing additional funds to the Council will enable the State to enhance its existing biosecurity measures and allow partner organizations to move from containment to eradication of invasive species where possible.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$4,250,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 299, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 299, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 147 Higher Education on H.B. No. 223

The purpose of this measure is to establish a pharmacist workforce assessment fee and the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy Special Fund to fund activities of the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy to support pharmacist workforce assessment and planning efforts.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i at Hilo; Hawai'i Pharmacists Association; Moloka'i Drugs, Inc.; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Board of Pharmacy; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that there is a need to support the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy to ensure the quality of health care and improve access to care for the people of Hawaii. Providing additional resources through a workforce assessment will help the College to proactively address issues of Hawaii's current health care crisis and leverage pharmacists to fill gaps in care related to medication management.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 223, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 223, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 148 Higher Education on H.B. No. 546

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for an artificial intelligence institute within the University of Hawaii to develop, support, and advance artificial intelligence initiatives statewide.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System and University of Hawaii Professional Assembly. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that artificial intelligence technologies are rapidly transforming industries and societies globally by enabling machines and computers to simulate human learning, comprehension, problem solving, decision making, creativity, and autonomy. Your Committee further finds that the University of Hawaii has the unique capacity to draw upon its academic disciplines, research strengths, and professional programs to serve as the hub for artificial

intelligence development in the State. Your Committee recognizes the importance of artificial intelligence to the State and believes that funding an institute dedicated to research, governance and ethics, development, and applications of artificial intelligence and related technologies is in the public interest and will be of great benefit to Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the amounts appropriated and amount of positions to be funded to unspecified amounts; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it choose to deliberate on this measure, to consider appropriating funds, as follows:

- (1) \$2,000,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 to establish faculty of practice and administrative professional technical positions within the Aloha Intelligence Institute and to develop, support, and advance artificial intelligence initiatives statewide, as follows:
 - (A) \$1,500,000 for ten full-time equivalent (10.0 FTE) permanent positions; and
 - (B) \$500,000 for seven full-time equivalent (7.0 FTE) non-recurring positions and start-up expenses; and
- (2) \$2,000,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 to establish faculty of practice and administrative professional technical positions within the Aloha Intelligence Institute and to develop, support, and advance artificial intelligence initiatives statewide, as follows:
 - (A) \$1,500,000 for ten full-time equivalent (10.0 FTE) permanent positions; and
 - (B) \$500,000 for non-recurring start-up expenses.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 546, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 546, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 149 Higher Education on H.B. No. 549

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for an Early Learning Apprenticeship Grant Program, to be administered by the University of Hawaii, to assist publicly- or privately-run early learning program service providers participating in state- and federally-approved early learning apprenticeship programs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; University of Hawai'i System; Department of Human Services; Early Learning Board; Executive Office on Early Learning; Department of Community Services of the City and County of Honolulu; Hawai'i Early Childhood Educator Excellence and Equity Project; Puakalehua Early Learning Consortium; Keiki O Ka Aina Family Learning Centers; American Association of University Women of Hawaii; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Keiki o Ka Aina Preschool, Inc.; Parents and Children Together; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that the establishment of an Early Learning Apprenticeship Grant Program will provide opportunities to support the recruitment, retention, and professional development of early learning professionals in a career field that has been experiencing a continuous shortage of qualified caregivers and staff for early learning programs.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the preamble to declare that the establishment of an Early Learning Apprenticeship Grant Program is a matter of statewide concern;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 549, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 549, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 150 Higher Education on H.B. No. 1172

The purpose of this measure is to include the Department of Taxation to the list of state agencies sharing data through the statewide longitudinal data system. This measure also allows the Department of Taxation to share certain wage data with the University of Hawaii and other state agencies.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Taxation; University of Hawai'i System; and Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for Education. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that data currently collected by state educational systems and workforce training agencies does not include information from certain segments of the State's workforce, including those who are self-employed. This leaves the current workforce data incomplete. Your Committee further finds that gathering data from tax filings of those who are self-employed, as provided by the Department of Taxation, will provide a more accurate analysis of Hawaii's workforce. This measure will help inform better policy while ensuring safeguards for privacy and confidentiality.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1172, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1172, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Labor.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 151 Public Safety on H.B. No. 1059

The purpose of this measure is to convert the emergency management specialist series positions at level V and higher in the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency from civil service status to exempt status.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Defense and Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee finds that there continues to be an insufficient number of Hawaii Emergency Management Agency staff and applicants to fill critically important position vacancies with trained, experienced, and qualified personnel. Your Committee further finds that exempting key positions of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency from civil service is one way to expedite the filling of these essential positions, but that addressing the underlying administrative problem of the State's lengthy hiring timeline, increasing position pay, and offering modern and attractive recruitment and retention incentives are better alternatives to systematically address the filling of these critical vacancies.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Labor, should it choose to deliberate on this measure, to further consider the issues raised in Act 234, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, including those regarding repricing, and further examine the barriers that impede agencies from engaging in negotiating more competitive salaries.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1059, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1059, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Labor.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 152 Culture & Arts on H.B. No. 133

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Education to support the establishment of surfing as an interscholastic sport.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the County of Kaua'i; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; 'Iolani Surf Team; Hana High and Elementary School; Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku Foundation; Leilehua High School Surf Team; H.P. Baldwin High School; Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau, LPCS; Kahuku High School Surf Team; Kaiser High School Surf Team/Club; Waialua High School Surf Team/Club; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that surfing is of significant cultural, social, and economic value to the State and believes surfing should be sponsored by more of the State's athletic leagues to enable student-athletes to compete in and perpetuate the legacy of this sport through state championship events. This measure provides financial resources that may encourage more Department of Education schools to participate in the sport of surfing and ultimately encourage more athletic leagues to add surfing as a sponsored sport.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Education, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the clarity of the cost estimate for operations per surfing competition provided by the Department of Education in written testimony and the Department's breakdown of that estimate in oral testimony.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 133, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 133, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Education.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 153 Culture & Arts on H.B. No. 450

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Transfer the duties and responsibilities of the Department of Accounting and General Services relating to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and King Kamehameha Celebration Commission to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and
- (2) Transfer the authority held by the Comptroller over the Works of Art Special Fund to the Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services and State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.

Your Committee finds that the mission and duties of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and King Kamehameha Celebration Commission align more closely with those of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. Your Committee further finds that transferring these duties and responsibilities, along with expending authority and responsibilities relating to the Works of Art Special Fund, to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism ensures more appropriate management and support of these organizations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Appropriating funds to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism for one full-time equivalent position within the Administrative Services Office to assist with the transfer;
- (2) Changing the effective date to an unspecified year, with the goal of providing two years to complete the transfers pursuant to this measure; and

- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 450, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 450, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 154 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 238

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Human Services to establish and implement a Child Care Provider Subsidy and Bonus Program to provide subsidies to retain the existing child care workforce in licensed infant and toddler child care centers, group child care centers, and group child care homes and bonuses to registered family child care homes; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the program, including administrative staff.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the American Association of University Women of Hawaii; Puakalehua Early Learning Consortium; Association for Infant Mental Health in Hawai'i; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Commit to Keiki; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services and Executive Office on Early Learning.

Your Committee finds that a strong child care and early education workforce is essential to supporting Hawaii's children, working families, and communities. However, the demand for quality child care far exceeds the number of qualified professionals available, making it difficult to maintain and expand affordable child care programs. This measure establishes a Child Care Provider Subsidy and Bonus Program to ensure fair compensation, improve retention, and strengthen the early education workforce, ultimately benefiting families and children across the State.

Your Committee notes the request by the Department of Human Services, in its testimony before your Committee, for an effective date of January 31, 2026, or later, to have sufficient time to establish and implement the Child Care Provider Subsidy and Bonus Program.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 238, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 238, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 155 Human Services & Homelessness/Health on H.B. No. 1131

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a pilot program in the Department of Health to provide intensive mobile treatment-type services to chronically houseless individuals suffering from serious brain disorders, including but not limited to schizophrenia and schizoaffective disorder.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hawaii Medical Association; and two individuals.

Your Committees find that houseless individuals with serious brain disorders may resist services due to co-morbid medical conditions or a lack of trust in those seeking to assist them. It is therefore critical to provide outreach services for these individuals by building engagement, rapport, and trust using highly specialized skills and training. This measure provides intensive mobile treatment-type services to chronically houseless individuals suffering from serious brain disorders, including schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder. These services are intended to decrease morbidity and mortality amongst these individuals, while also saving the community money through decreased hospitalizations, decreased law enforcement encounters, and decreased incarcerations.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the pilot program shall manage at least forty participants, rather than cap the number of participants at forty;
- (2) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committees respectfully request your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,300,000.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Human Services & Homelessness and Health that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1131, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1131, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Human Services & Homelessness: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Health: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 156 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 859

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an Agricultural Crime Prevention Program within the Department of Agriculture to provide grants, education, administrative enforcement, and other services for the benefit of the State's agricultural industry;
- (2) Clarify, create, and strengthen laws regarding crimes and violations related to agriculture or agricultural lands and hunting on private agricultural lands;
- (3) Establish clear distinctions between administrative and criminal penalties; and

(4) Appropriate funds for certain positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Hawai'i; Honolulu Police Department; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Budget and Finance; and Hawaii Cattlemen's Council.

Your Committee finds that agricultural crime, including theft, vandalism, trespassing, and illegal hunting, poses a growing threat to Hawaii's farmers and ranchers, jeopardizing food security, economic stability, and the viability of local agriculture. Farmers already face numerous challenges such as unpredictable weather, pests, and labor shortages, and the added burden of crime further threatens their livelihoods. Despite efforts by the agricultural community to enhance security through surveillance and community watch programs, limited law enforcement resources make it difficult to effectively deter and prosecute offenders. This measure addresses the issue by establishing an Agricultural Crime Prevention Program within the Department of Agriculture, which will provide grants for security measures, support education and outreach, and strengthen collaboration with law enforcement. By creating a structured approach to prevention and enforcement, this measure ensures that agricultural crimes are taken seriously, protecting Hawaii's farming industry and safeguarding the future of local food production.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Strengthening language in the preamble related to how unauthorized hunting on private lands negatively impacts agricultural lands and farmers and ranchers;
- (2) Expanding certain powers of the Department of Agriculture to relate to agriculture, rather than only livestock;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 859, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 859, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 157 Tourism/Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 449

The purpose of this measure is to promote economic development by:

- (1) Requiring the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation to establish a program that provides technology enablement for small businesses related to the tourism industry in the State; and
- (2) Appropriating funds to assist in the development and promotion of Hawaii-manufactured products through the INNOVATE Hawaii program.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Technology Development Corporation; Hawaii Food Industry Association; WaiHome LLC; and Cymz Sweet Kre8tionz LLC.

Your Committees find that programs operated by the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism and the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation can leverage their existing partnerships with other organizations to bring new advanced technology to Hawaii to assist small businesses with development, manufacturing, operations, and marketing of "Made in Hawaii" products.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the requirement for the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation to establish a program that provides technology enablement for small businesses related to the tourism industry in the State;
- (2) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (3) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committees respectfully request your Committee on Finance, should it choose to deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$500,000.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Tourism and Economic Development & Technology that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 449, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 449, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Tourism: Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Economic Development & Technology: Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 158 Health on H.B. No. 250

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Examine prior authorization practices in the State by requiring utilization review entities to report certain data to the State Health Planning and Development Agency; and
- (2) Establish the Health Care Appropriateness and Necessity Commission to make recommendations to improve and expedite the prior authorization process.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; State Health Planning and Development Agency; Mohala Health; Hawaii Medical Association; Philippine Medical Association of Hawai'i; Waipahu Therapy Center, LLP; Hawai'i Association of Professional Nurses; Hawaii Provider Shortage Crisis Task Force; Waves of Health Inc; Hawaii Academy of Family Physicians; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Hawaii Medical Service Association; Hawaii Association of Health Plans; and Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i.

Your Committee finds that prior authorization was initially created in the 1980s to identify and deny payment to doctors, hospitals, and health care providers that was deemed not medically necessary or appropriate. Your Committee further finds that since then, the practice of prior authorization has been more frequently used to deny medical claims, regardless of the medical necessity or appropriateness of the prescribed medical treatment. As a result, physicians

and other health care providers must expend an increasing amount of time and money to go through the process of appealing denials to ensure patients receive the medical treatment they were prescribed. Your Committee additionally finds that the basis for denial of prior authorization requests varies from insurer to insurer, further increasing costs for health care providers and delaying the timely provision of health care. Your Committee believes that streamlining and increasing the transparency of the prior authorization process, as proposed by this measure, will reduce the burden of navigating the prior authorization process and ensure the State's health care providers are able to deliver health care services to their patients in a safe and timely manner.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Establishing timelines for the approval of prior authorization requests for urgent and non-urgent health care services;
- (2) Establishing a Health Care Appropriateness and Necessity Working Group, rather than a commission;
- (3) Including laboratory and diagnostic tests to the list of services to be assessed by the Working Group;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes the testimony of the Hawaii Medical Service Association and Hawaii Medical Association proposing alternative compositions of the Health Care Appropriateness and Necessity Working Group. Your Committee believes that the working group should be composed of members best suited to effectively carry out the purposes of this measure, which is regulatory in nature and therefore more appropriately addressed by your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce. Therefore, your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider amending this measure to provide the most effective composition of the working group.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 250, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 250, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 159 Health on H.B. No. 756

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the sale or distribution of all flavored nicotine products, including products with menthol, and prohibit the mislabeling of products as nicotine-free.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Health; Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hina Mauka; Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition; Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i Youth Council; Hawaii COPD Coalition; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i; Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids Hawaii; Tobacco-Free Kids Action Fund; Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Cigar Association of America, Inc.; Americans for Tax Reform; ABC Stores; Marukin Market; China Town Liquor; No. 1 Store; Discount Smoke Shop Hawaii; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation and Reason Foundation.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's youth have been disproportionately affected by the nationwide vaping epidemic, with latest estimates showing e-cigarette use among high schoolers at 13.2 percent and 10.3 percent use among middle schoolers, a 6.7 percent increase from 2023. Your Committee further finds that more than eight out of ten youth e-cigarette and nicotine pouch users reported using flavored products, with fruit as the most common flavor, followed by candy, desserts or other sweets, mint, and menthol. For youth nicotine pouch users, mint was the most commonly used flavor, followed by fruit.

Your Committee believes that an expansive catalog of flavors is one of the main reasons why the use of tobacco and nicotine products and electronic smoking devices by Hawaii's youth continues to rise. Electronic smoking devices and flavored tobacco products offered in Hawaii include flavors and packaging designed to appeal to the State's youth, such as POG, shaka strawberry, luau punch, and lilikoi lychee. This measure seeks to address the youth vaping crisis by prohibiting the sale and distribution of all flavored nicotine products and mislabeling of products as nicotine-free.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the definitions of "distinguishable", "electronic smoking device", "e-liquid", "flavored nicotine product", "nicotine product", "retailer", and "nicotine product retail location";
- (2) Inserting definitions for "inspector", "nicotine", and "nicotine product flavor enhancer";
- (3) Making it unlawful to sell nicotine product flavor enhancers as well as flavored nicotine products;
- (4) Clarifying that a statement or claim that a product is a flavored nicotine product includes any statements or claims made by an importer, a distributor, or a retailer, or their agents or employees, and any claims that the product has a minty or cooling effect;
- (5) Authorizing the Department of Health to amend interim rules;
- (6) Clarifying the Department of Health's ability to contract with third-party inspectors;
- (7) Changing the number of full-time equivalent positions to unspecified numbers;
- (8) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (9) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider appropriating funds for two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) program specialist positions and one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) hearings officer position.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 756, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 756, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committees on Consumer Protection & Commerce and Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 160 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 108

The purpose of this measure is to allow the direct shipment of beer and distilled spirits by certain liquor licensees.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Kōloa Rum Company; Maui Brewing Co.; Lanikai Brewing Company; Beer Lab HI; Maui Wine; Ola Brew; Kuleana Rum Works; Brewers Association; Napali Brewing Company; Koolau Distillery; Kaua'i Island Brewing Co.; Hana Hou Brewing Co.; Kauai Beer Company; and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Liquor Wholesalers Association and Hawai'i Alcohol Policy Alliance.

Your Committee finds that existing law imposes differential treatment among liquor licensees by authorizing direct business-to-consumer shipping of alcoholic beverages for wineries shipping wine, but not for other licensees or other types of alcohol. This differential treatment impedes the growth of small licensees that struggle to secure relationships with wholesalers to distribute the small licensees' products across the State. This measure provides another avenue for small business licensees to reach consumers by allowing the direct shipment of beer and distilled spirits by certain licensees.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the authority for an out-of-state manufacturer to ship directly to consumers is contingent upon the manufacturer being licensed in a jurisdiction that affords licensees in Hawaii shipping privileges for the shipment of beer and distilled spirits direct to consumers in that jurisdiction;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider whether reciprocity provisions relating to the interstate shipment of intoxicating liquor are constitutional.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 108, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 108, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 161 Tourism/Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 448

The purpose of this measure is to promote economic development and tourism by appropriating funds to the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation to assist small businesses, including those related to the tourism sector, with technology enablement.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Technology Development Corporation; Hawaii Food Industry Association; and WaiHome LLC.

Your Committees find that the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation provides small businesses with access to modern digital tools and advanced technology to optimize operations, expand to new markets, reduce manufacturing costs, and become globally competitive.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committees respectfully request your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider appropriating \$250,000 for the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation to assist small businesses, including those related to the tourism sector, with technology enablement.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Tourism and Economic Development & Technology that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 448, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 448, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Tourism: Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Economic Development & Technology: Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 162 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 735

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow an individual wastewater system to serve up to five bedrooms, regardless of the number of dwelling units or accessory units, whether attached or detached; and
- (2) Temporarily permit certain new buildings constructed within a priority level 3 area, as designated by the Hawaii Cesspool Prioritization Tool, that contain up to five bedrooms to be served by an existing cesspool.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Hanalei Initiative; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawai'i Wai Ola. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that existing administrative rules allow an individual wastewater system to serve no more than five bedrooms, regardless of whether the five bedrooms are in one dwelling unit or two dwelling units. Therefore, certain dwelling units may be prohibited from using an individual wastewater system solely because the bedrooms are outside the dwelling unit. This measure addresses this issue by allowing an individual wastewater system to serve up to five bedrooms, regardless of the number of dwelling units or accessory units, whether attached or detached.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Excluding new requests to connect additional dwelling units to an existing cesspool from the provision allowing an individual wastewater system to serve up to five bedrooms, regardless of the number of attached or detached dwelling or accessory units;
- (2) Removing the language allowing certain new buildings constructed within a priority level 3 area to be served by an existing cesspool;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 735, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 735, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 163 Transportation on H.B. No. 914

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Public Utilities Commission to establish an automatic adjustment mechanism, including a water carrier inflation cost index automatic adjustment mechanism; and
- (2) Authorize the Public Utilities Commission to waive or exempt a water carrier from the Hawaii Water Carrier Act.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Office of the Mayor of the County of Kaua'i; Matson Navigation Company, Inc.; Young Brothers, LLC; Hawai'i Harbors Users Group; and Lanai Oil Company, Inc. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Public Utilities Commission.

Your Committee finds that water carriers in Hawaii face significant challenges due to inflation and regulatory lag, which hinder their ability to maintain efficient and affordable transportation services for passengers and goods. These challenges are exacerbated by the lack of a streamlined mechanism for timely rate adjustments in response to fluctuating economic conditions. This measure will allow water carriers to make annual rate adjustments to promote financial stability and service reliability.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that the Public Utilities Commission, in its written testimony to your Committee, raised concerns that the mandatory establishment of a water carrier inflationary cost index automatic adjustment mechanism may have compounding effects on rates and impact on customers. As such, the Public Utilities Commission recommended that the establishment of such a mechanism be discretionary. Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the concerns raised by the Public Utilities Commission.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 914, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 914, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 164 Transportation on H.B. No. 532

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Reduce the period in which a transferee is required to forward the certificate of ownership to the Director of Finance when a title of vehicle is transferred from thirty days to fourteen days; and
- (2) Allow a letter of attestation to the Director of Finance to act as an endorsed certificate for a motor vehicle transfer.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Mayor County of Maui; two members of the Maui County Council; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Customer Services of the City and County of Honolulu and one individual.

Your Committee finds that when a vehicle is transferred, the transfer is not considered complete until the county receives a certificate of ownership documenting the transfer. This creates an issue when the buyer of a vehicle fails to submit the required documentation and the vehicle remains legally registered to the previous owner. As a result, the previous owner may be liable for things like parking tickets or certain infractions even though they are no longer in possession of the vehicle.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have:
 - (A) Reduced the period in which a transferee is required to forward the certificate of ownership to the Director of Finance when a title of vehicle is transferred from thirty days to fourteen days; and
 - (B) Authorized a letter of attestation to the Director of Finance to act as an endorsed certificate for motor vehicle transfer;
- (2) Specifying that proof that the transferor has filed a required notice form shall serve as a complete defense to any action brought against the transferor for an act or omission, civil or criminal, arising out of the use, operation, or abandonment of the vehicle by another person after the transferor's filing of the notice form;
- (3) Establishing a penalty for a transferor who submits false or fraudulent information regarding transferring a title to a vehicle;
- (4) Requiring the courts, by July 1, 2026, to create new forms permitting transferors to respond to actions arising out of the use, operation, or abandonment of transferred vehicles;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 532, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 532, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 165 Transportation on H.B. No. 468

The purpose of this measure is to require the Civil Rights Commission to receive and investigate complaints related to acts of discrimination committed by transportation network company drivers against riders with service animals and report the results of its investigation to the Department of Transportation, which shall issue penalties to transportation network companies.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Uber. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Lyft.

Your Committee finds that despite existing regulations, there have been numerous reports of transportation network company drivers refusing service to passengers accompanied by service animals. This discriminatory practice undermines the rights of individuals with disabilities and hinders their ability to access transportation services. This measure ensures that individuals with disabilities are not unfairly denied access to transportation services, thereby upholding their rights and promoting equal access for all.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Civil Rights Commission to complete their investigation and respond to the complaint within an unspecified number of days after receiving a complaint;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 468, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 468, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 166 Transportation on H.B. No. 486

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit:
 - (A) The operation of an electric bicycle on a highway, street, or roadway;
 - (B) A person from operating an electric bicycle in an unsafe manner; and
 - (C) A person from removing a manufacturer- or factory-installed speed limiting device from an electric bicycle or operating an electric bicycle in which the manufacturer- or factory-installed speed limiting device was removed;
- (2) Require the Department of Transportation to develop a traffic safety education program and public awareness campaign to educate the public on general electric bicycle riding safety, rules of the road, and laws pertaining to electric bicycles; and
- (3) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawai'i Bicycling League; Moped Doctors Inc.; Law Office of Georgette A. Yaindl, LLC; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that the increasing popularity of electric bicycles in the State has led to a rise in safety concerns, including a significant number of accidents and fatalities involving cyclists, pedestrians, and motorists. Your Committee further finds that the removal of speed-limiting devices and unsafe riding practices have compounded these dangers, placing riders and the public at risk. This measure will reduce accidents involving electric bicycles by ensuring speed-limiting devices remain intact and implementing education and awareness programs to promote safe riding practices and compliance with traffic laws.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the provisions that prohibited:
 - (A) The operation of a bicycle equipped with a motor on a highway, street, roadway, or any other areas designated for motor vehicles; and
 - (B) The reckless or unsafe operation of an electric bicycle;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 486, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 486, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Evslin). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 167 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 639

The purpose of this measure is to require corporations, organizations, or individuals engaging in commercial transactions to inform consumers when the consumers are communicating or otherwise interacting with a chatbot or other technology that mimics human interaction.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Public Citizen; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from TechNet and the Chamber of Commerce Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that chatbots have increased in their sophistication and can engage in human-like conversations and potentially mislead users into believing they are interacting with real people. This measure will ensure that consumers are informed when they are interacting with a chatbot or similar technology during commercial transactions.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding an exemption for small businesses that unknowingly utilize artificial intelligence chatbots;
- (2) Adding a requirement for developers of chatbots to make certain disclosures regarding their chatbots' use of artificial intelligence;
- (3) Clarifying that the Director of the Office of Consumer Protection may file a petition for injunctive relief against violators;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 639, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 639, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Templo).

SCRep. 168 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 671

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to identify all legislative districts in the State in which a majority of the population consists of Native Hawaiians and designate these districts as Native Hawaiian majority districts.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committee finds that if fifty percent is used as the minimum threshold to determine a majority and if the United States Census Bureau's category of "Native Hawaiian Alone" is used as the race category, then none of Hawaii's legislative districts would be classified as a Native Hawaiian majority district as proposed by this measure. If the United States Census Bureau's category of "Native Hawaiian Alone or in Combination with Other Races" is used, the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism would need to do special tabulations to determine which districts would be designated Native Hawaiian majority districts under this measure.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the agency tasked with identifying the legislative districts from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs;
- (2) Specifying that the minimum population threshold for these legislative districts to receive the designation shall be twenty-five percent;
- (3) Specifying that the legislative districts shall be designated as Native Hawaiian Notable Districts;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 671, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 671, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Templo).

SCRep. 169 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 1308

The purpose of this measure is to allow for the regulation of sports wagering by the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism and to specify that sports wagering and fantasy sports contests do not constitute gambling.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from BetMGM; DraftKings; Iron Workers Stabilization Fund; Sports Betting Alliance; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Honolulu Police Department; Boyd Gaming; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Taxation; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and Office of Information Practices.

Your Committee finds that sports wagering is widespread in the State through an unregulated, illegal market. Your Committee further finds that regulating sports wagering would protect consumers, generate a new stream of revenue for the State, and stifle the illegal market. This measure addresses this need by allowing for regulated, mobile sports wagering and legalizing fantasy sports contests.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the regulatory entity from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs;
- (2) Clarifying the extent to which the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs is required to keep certain information pertaining to a sports wagering operator licensee or applicant confidential;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that the percentage of all taxes collected that will be deposited into the Problem Gambling Prevention and Treatment Special Fund is currently unspecified. Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it choose to deliberate on this measure, to consider the rate other states that regulate sports wagering have used for similar funds or purposes. Your Committee also respectfully requests your Committees on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs and Finance, should they choose to deliberate on this measure, to consider the testimony from the Department of Taxation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1308, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1308, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6; Ayes with Reservations (Matsumoto). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Templo).

SCRep. 170 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 772

The purpose of this measure is to disallow the use of campaign funds to purchase up to two tickets for an event held by another candidate or committee.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Campaign Spending Commission; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Green Party of Hawai'i; Free Access Coalition; Chamber of Sustainable Commerce; Our Hawai'i; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that this measure implements one of the recommendations made by the Commission to Improve Standards of Conduct established by the House of Representatives in House Resolution No. 9, Regular Session of 2022. This measure would reduce the appearance of any impropriety since a candidate's campaign funds are likely contributions made to a specific candidate and not intended to be used for other candidates.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 772, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 772, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 171 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 370

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the amount of funds available to candidates who qualify to participate in the partial public financing program;
- (2) Adjust the minimum amount of qualifying contributions certain candidates must receive to participate in the partial public financing program;
- (3) Increase the matching fund payments to candidates in the partial public financing program for excess qualifying contributions; and
- (4) Appropriate funds to increase the amount of funds available in the partial public financing program and to permit the Campaign Spending Commission to hire more staff to address the anticipated increase in participation in the financing program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Campaign Spending Commission; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Green Party of Hawai'i; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Our Hawai'i; 350Hawaii.org; Free Access Coalition; Chamber of Sustainable Commerce; Hawaii Workers Center; and numerous individuals. 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 this measure implements one of the recommendations made by the Commission to Improve Standards of Conduct established by the House of Representatives in House Resolution No. 9, Regular Session of 2022. This measure would bolster publicly funded elections thereby expanding the reach of many small donors and relieving candidates of the need to rely on the support of special interest groups or large donors.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation for staff within the Campaign Spending Commission and the number of staff positions to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$200,000 for two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) permanent positions to be placed within the Campaign Spending Commission.

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. 370, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 370, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 172 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 134

The purpose of this measure is to require and appropriate funds for the Chief Election Officer to provide a system for the electronic filing of nomination papers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Elections and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from three individuals.

Your Committee finds that the existing process for completing and filing nomination papers is a hybrid electronic-physical process. Providing a fully electronic process for completing and filing nomination papers will streamline the candidate filing process and improve government efficiency.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to January 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that the Office of Elections submitted testimony requesting that the measure be amended to authorize elections officials to charge a processing fee when candidates electronically file their nomination papers. The Office of Elections is also requesting the effective date be changed to January 1, 2028, to ensure that it is able to procure, test, and train candidates on the use of the electronic system.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$500,000.

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. 134, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 134, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 173 Education on H.B. No. 1188

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a Teacher Workforce Housing Stipend Program (Program) to support teacher retention at public schools designated as rural or in an underserved area.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Public Charter School Commission; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Education; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee finds that certain areas of Hawaii face significant challenges in attracting and retaining qualified educators due to limited affordable housing options and the State's high cost of living. Addressing teacher retention is critical to reducing educational disparities and ensuring equitable access to high-quality learning opportunities for every student in public and charter schools. This measure would provide financial assistance for housing through a Teacher Workforce Housing Stipend Program and will support teacher retention while alleviating economic burdens and encouraging educators to make long-term commitments to teaching in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the Teacher Workforce Housing Stipend Program is to support teacher retention at any public school and charter school that is designated as hard-to-staff;
- (2) Clarifying that an individual shall be eligible for stipend consideration if the individual does not own a residence;
- (3) Changing the stipend award amount to an unspecified amount;
- (4) Clarifying that the terms and conditions set by the Department of Education for the repayment of stipends include circumstances under which recipients may be eligible for deferment or forgiveness in certain situations;
- (5) Specifying that stipends repaid by a stipend recipient shall be deposited into the Teachers' Housing Revolving Fund;
- (6) Authorizing the Department of Education to:
 - (A) Accept federal funds to support the Program;
 - (B) Enter into written contracts with collection agencies to collect delinquent repayments of stipends owed to the Department; and
 - (C) Adopt rules to implement and administer the Program;
- (7) Amending the purpose and uses of the Teachers' Housing Revolving Fund to accept stipend repayments and use funds for the Program;
- (8) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (9) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider \$1,000 per month as the stipend award amount under the Teacher Workforce Housing Stipend Program.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1188, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1188, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Housing.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kapela).

SCRep. 174 Education on H.B. No. 624

The purpose of this measure is to establish a School Psychologists Working Group within the Department of Education to recommend actionable steps or propose legislation to the Legislature for an immediate pathway to licensure for school psychologists in 2026.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Board of Psychology; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; Hawai'i Association of School Psychologists; and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the Department of Education. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Psychological Association.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii is the only state without a pathway to licensure for school psychologists. Your Committee recognizes that school psychologists are essential in helping students succeed academically, socially, behaviorally, and emotionally by providing direct educational and mental health services for children and youth. As there is no statutorily established criteria for licensure for school psychologists, a working group to recommend actionable steps to create a pathway to licensure for school psychologists is needed.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding a representative of the Board of Psychology and a representative of the Hawaii Psychological Association to be invited to serve on the School Psychologists Working Group by its Chair;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (3) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 624, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 624, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kapela).

SCRep. 175 Education on H.B. No. 625

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a Nationally Certified School Psychologist Incentive Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; Hawai'i Association of School Psychologists; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that school psychologists are integral to meeting students' mental, emotional, and social needs, as well as helping students succeed in the school environment. The National Association of School Psychologists recommends a ratio of one school psychologist to every five hundred students; however, many school psychologists in the State have more than fifteen hundred students.

Your Committee further finds that the establishment of a Nationally Certified School Psychologist Incentive Program will assist the State in addressing the critical shortage of accredited school psychologists in public schools and provide students with access to professionals who engage in high quality, evidence-based practices.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the amounts awarded to unspecified amounts; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider establishing an award amount of:

- (1) \$5,000 per year to each nationally certified school psychologist who maintains a current national certification;
- (2) Up to \$500, depending on the certification fee structure, upon completing all components of the Nationally Certified School Psychologist credential; and
- (3) An additional \$5,000 bonus per year to each school psychologist employed by the Department of Education who maintains a current Nationally Certified School Psychologist certificate and provides school psychology services to children in a hard-to-fill area as defined by the Department.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 625, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 625, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kapela).

SCRep. 176 Education on H.B. No. 1314

The purpose of this measure is to require all schools in the State to develop plans to execute mental health check-ins with their students in grades six through twelve.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawaii Association of School Psychologists; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Education; and Hawai'i Youth Services Network.

Your Committee finds that, as children become teenagers, their attention shifts from the approval of their parents to that of their peers, causing youth to be more susceptible to peer-pressure, bullying, and increased deviant behaviors. In addition, with the increased access of social media, youth can be inundated with content that is difficult to process. Youth trying to negotiate their way through this turbulent time may find it difficult to communicate their struggles to their parents. This can leave the youth feeling isolated and unable to cope with their psychosocial stressors.

Your Committee further finds that it may fall onto other positive adult figures to step up and check-in with youths. These adult figures are often teachers, counselors, or coaches at the school the youth attends. Your Committee believes that requiring all schools to develop mental health plans that include the implementation of mental health check-ins will offer support and mental health resources for students.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language providing immunity for Department of Education schools, charter schools, and private schools, including their personnel and any private contractors hired by the schools, from any civil or criminal liability arising from providing mental health check-ins with their students, except where the conduct would constitute gross negligence, willful and wanton misconduct, or intentional misconduct; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1314, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1314, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Health.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kapela).

SCRep. 177 Education on H.B. No. 616

The purpose of this measure is to provide increased protection for educational workers by requiring the Department of Education and state public charter schools to take certain steps to better address the harassment of educational workers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Public Charter School Commission; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; and nine individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that this measure recognizes the necessity of safeguarding educational workers who may encounter instances of harassment which may interfere with educational workers ability to provide optimal delivery of educational services to the State's students and families. This measure is a step in helping to maintain a secure and conducive learning environment for educators and students.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that an educational worker shall not be required to work under conditions or perform tasks when the educational worker is being subjected to harassment, as provided by law, because of the educational worker's position as an educational worker;
- (2) Specifying that the Department of Education and public charter schools shall reimburse the education worker for costs incurred from serving temporary restraining orders related to harassment, rather than be required to reimburse the educational worker's attorney's fees or court costs;
- (3) Clarifying that an educational worker shall be entitled to paid leave of absence when seeking judicial protection from harassment, as provided by law, because of the educational worker's position as an educational worker;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 616, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 616, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kapela).

SCRep. 178 Education on H.B. No. 1496

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the position of Ka Papahana Kaiapuni program complex area superintendent;
- (2) Require that at least one at-large member of the Board of Education be a Hawaiian educator, practitioner, or scholar of Hawaiian studies or the Hawaiian language;
- (3) Clarify the purpose and objective of the Hawaiian Language Medium Education Program; and
- (4) Appropriate funds for the establishment of:
 - (A) The Ka Papahana Kaiapuni program complex area superintendent; and
 - (B) A secretary position to support the Ka Papahana Kaiapuni program complex area superintendent.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Teachers Association; 'Aha Kauleo; 'Aha Pūnana Leo; Nā Leo Kāko'o O'ahu; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the Department of Education. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Board of Education.

Your Committee finds that 'olelo Hawaii, or the Hawaiian language, is an officially recognized language of the State. Your Committee further finds that in 2004, Hawaiian language immersion was codified in the Hawaii Revised Statutes. The Ka Papahana Kaiapuni programs provide bicultural and bilingual education, emphasizing Hawaiian language, history, and values. As of the 2024-2025 school year, the Ka Papahana Kaiapuni programs serve over three thousand four hundred students at twenty-nine public schools; however, despite the success of these programs, your Committee recognizes the importance of providing further support and recognition to these programs.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1496, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1496, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kapela).

SCRep. 179 Education on H.B. No. 88

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a student athlete travel pilot program to provide funds for intra-county travel expenses for student athletes of Maui County.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Public Charter School Commission and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the Department of Education. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that, as a multi-island jurisdiction, Maui County students participating in school sports face unique and burdensome challenges when attending competitions within the county. The travel costs for student athletes to compete within Maui County presents significant and unique financial and logistical burdens for the athletes and their families, which may prevent student athletes from reaching their athletic potential. This measure would explore the use of a funding mechanism to cover intra-county travel expenses for student athletes of Maui County to ensure equitable access to the opportunities and benefits provided through participating in school sports and athletics.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that students of counties with a population of less than 500,000 are eligible for the student athlete travel pilot program;
- (2) Allowing the funds appropriated for the student athlete travel pilot program to be used for the hiring of an athletic clerk to assist with travel procurement and the implementation of the pilot program;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 88, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 88, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kapela).

SCRep. 180 Education on H.B. No. 626

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Education to expand the Ho‘ākea Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Mayor of the County of Hawai‘i; one member of the Hawai‘i County Council; Department of Parks and Recreation of the County of Hawai‘i; Kingdom Pathways; Mālama Learning Center; Mālama ‘Āina Foundation; Hui O Wa‘a Kaulua; Ka‘ala Farm; La‘i‘ōpua 2020; Kuleana Coral Restoration; Maui Hulia Foundation; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Education's Ho‘ākea: Mauka to Makai Navigating our Future Program is designed to educate students by integrating core educational concepts in math, science, social studies, civics, leadership, language, and literacy with cultural practices and traditions in ‘āina and community settings, with lesson plans integrating environmental stewardship, climate change, Native Hawaiian practices, responsibility to care for community, total well-being, and a sense of place. The Ho‘ākea Program has reached over three thousand two hundred students and nearly one thousand three hundred teachers and engaged more than fifty organizations across Hawaii. Your Committee recognizes that the Department of Education cannot meet the increasing demand from schools for ‘āina-based learning experiences with existing resources. This measure will provide the Department of Education with sufficient funding and enable the Department to triple engagement with the Ho‘ākea Program by 2027.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the amount appropriated to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it choose to deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$3,500,000 for funding for the Ho‘ākea Program.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 626, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 626, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kapela).

SCRep. 181 Education on H.B. No. 1346

The purpose of this measure is to provide automatic step increases in teacher salaries for each year of satisfactory service completed, subject to available funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai‘i State Teachers Association; Democratic Party of Hawai‘i Education Caucus; and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Office of Collective Bargaining; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that the recruitment and retention of qualified teachers is essential to the success of the Hawaii's public education system. To address matters of teacher recruitment and retention, it is critical that teacher salaries remain competitive to attract qualified individuals who are responsible for the education of the State's children. Your Committee believes that applying salary differentials for teachers will help to incentivize qualified teachers to fill teacher vacancies and reduce associated labor shortages.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1346, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1346, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Labor.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Olds). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kapela).

SCRep. 182 Finance on H.B. No. 1440

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to provide for the expenses of the Legislature, Auditor, Legislative Reference Bureau, Ombudsman, and Hawaii State Ethics Commission.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Legislative Reference Bureau; Office of the Ombudsman; Hawai‘i State Ethics Commission; Office of the Auditor; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that this measure appropriates sufficient funds to defray the necessary expenses of the Senate and House of Representatives through June 30, 2026, including session and nonsession expenses. Your Committee further finds that this measure also appropriates sufficient funds to defray the necessary expenses of the Office of the Auditor, Legislative Reference Bureau, Office of the Ombudsman, and Hawaii State Ethics Commission for fiscal year 2025-2026.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Correcting the exceeded amount of the general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025; and
- (2) Amending the general fund appropriation sum in section 7 to the Office of the Auditor for accuracy.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1440, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1440, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 183 Culture & Arts on H.B. No. 531

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of special number plates to recognize the University of Hawaii Cancer Center.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System and American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network.

Your Committee finds that the University of Hawaii Cancer Center provides important cancer research, access to life-saving treatment, and patient care. Your Committee believes that issuing special number plates can provide additional funds to support the Hawaii Cancer Center's ongoing efforts in cancer research and treatment.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 531, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 531, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Higher Education.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 184 Higher Education on H.B. No. 1320

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the University of Hawaii System to collect, analyze, and publicly report certain data on graduate outcomes; and
- (2) Require and appropriate funds for the development and maintenance of a graduate outcomes dashboard, including for the establishment of two full-time equivalent positions with the University of Hawaii System's Office of the Vice President for Academic Strategy to support the development and maintenance of the graduate outcomes dashboard.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that publicly reporting data on certain metrics of educational institutions, including post-graduation employment rates and median incomes will enable students and their families to make informed decisions about the student's career path and which educational institution the student will attend. Your Committee further finds tracking and reporting this data will help ensure institutional accountability and align higher education programs with Hawaii's workforce development needs.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the amount of positions to be established to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to determine the appropriate number of positions to be established to support the development and maintenance of the graduate outcomes dashboard as required by this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1320, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1320, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 185 Health/Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 553

The purpose of this measure is to require health insurers, mutual benefit societies, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for biomarker testing beginning January 1, 2026.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Alliance for Patient Access; National Comprehensive Cancer Network; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Biotechnology Innovation Organization; American Kidney Fund; International Cancer Advocacy Network; Liberty Dialysis-Hawaii; Alzheimer's Association Hawaii Chapter; Oncology Nursing Society; Advanced Medical Technology Association; American Lung Association; and nine individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of Human Services; Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i; Hawaii Medical Service Association; and Hawaii Association of Health Plans.

Your Committees find that biomarker testing is an invaluable tool in the diagnosis, treatment, appropriate management, and ongoing monitoring of diseases or conditions. This testing allows for a more precise and personalized approach to medical care by identifying specific genetic, molecular, or biochemical markers associated with an individual's disease. This measure would advance the standard of care for individuals facing various diseases and conditions, particularly in the field of oncology where biomarker testing plays a pivotal role in personalized medicine.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Health and Human Services & Homelessness that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 553, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 553, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Health: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Human Services & Homelessness: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 186 Health on H.B. No. 1300

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the University of Hawai'i Cancer Center to conduct a multiethnic cohort study focusing on the social determinants of health, lifestyles, environmental exposures, and resilience factors of Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, and Filipinos, including an analysis of the health effects and risks of individuals living in close proximity to landfills in Nanakuli, Oahu.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; University of Hawai'i Cancer Center; University of Hawai'i at Mānoa John A. Burns School of Medicine; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; The Queen's Health Systems; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Iron Workers Stabilization Fund; Lou's Quality Home Health Care Services, LLC; Advanced Care Training, LLC; Philippine Nurses Association; and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that while cancer incidences and mortality rates have decreased in Hawaii over the last decade, disparities between ethnic populations continues to be an area of concern, particularly with Native Hawaiians, who experience higher incidences of breast and ovarian cancers, and Filipino women, who experience higher incidences of ovarian and thyroid cancers. Your Committee believes that there is a need to identify the root causes of these disparities, including determining health risks associated with living in close proximity to certain environmental hazards and exposures like county and private waste landfills.

Your Committee further finds that the University of Hawai'i Cancer Center is one of seventy-one National Cancer Institute-designated cancer centers in the United States and the only center in the Hawaii and Pacific region, which allows the University of Hawai'i Cancer Center to conduct research that cannot be easily conducted anywhere else in the world. This measure is intended to address concerning health disparities by appropriating funds to enable the University of Hawai'i Cancer Center to conduct vital cancer research focusing on Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, and Filipinos.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$500,000 for each year of the fiscal biennium.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1300, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1300, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Higher Education.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 187 Health on H.B. No. 1427

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Department of Agriculture to prevent, monitor, and respond to avian influenza in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Agriculture; State Health Planning and Development Agency; Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that H5 avian influenza viruses, also referred to bird flu, can cause severe illness with a high mortality rate among certain bird populations, such as poultry. The virus can also pass to other species, including dairy cows and humans. Your Committee further finds that bird flu was detected in a domestic flock of birds on Oahu in November 2024 and has since been detected in wastewater testing in Hilo and on Kauai. As of January 2025, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported sixty-seven confirmed human cases of bird flu, with one case resulting in the patient's death. Although the risk of human-to-human infection is currently low, your Committee believes that close monitoring of the situation to identify any changes in the virus that may increase transmissibility or infection severity is warranted to protect Hawaii's residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation of between \$3,300,000 and \$4,700,000, depending on the availability of federal funds, for the Department of Health and an appropriation of \$293,000 for the Department of Agriculture.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1427, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1427, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, none.

SCRep. 188 Higher Education on H.B. No. 940

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the rat lungworm lab at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at the University of Hawaii at Hilo.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i at Hilo and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that rat lungworm disease causes substantial impairment to quality of life, is difficult to diagnose, and lacking in strong evidence to guide treatment recommendations. There is critical need for ongoing research into rat lungworm disease. The appropriation of funds as provided in this measure will promote and advance high quality research to improve the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of rat lungworm disease.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the amount appropriated to an unspecified amount; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$500,000 for the rat lungworm lab at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at the University of Hawaii at Hilo.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 940, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 940, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 189 Education on H.B. No. 1202

The purpose of this measure is to recognize prior teaching experience at an equal salary comparable to currently hired teachers of identical years of experience for newly hired teachers or teachers reentering the service of the Department of Education.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Kūlia Academy and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that this measure is a crucial step in addressing teacher shortages and ensuring that public schools in the State can offer competitive compensation to attract and retain top teaching talent.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1202, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1202, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Labor.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 190 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 1291

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Extend the offense of false labeling of Hawaii-grown coffee to include roasted coffee; and
- (2) Impose a mandatory \$10,000 fine for each separate offense of false-labeling of Hawaii-grown roasted coffee.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Synergistic Hawaii Agriculture Council; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Kona Coffee Farmers Association; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii-grown coffee is one of the State's most valuable and well-known agricultural products, contributing significantly to the economy through direct sales, employment, land preservation, and tourism. However, the industry faces an ongoing threat from coffee counterfeiting, where cheaper, lower-quality coffee is falsely labeled as originating from Hawaii. While existing laws regulate the labeling of green coffee, a loophole allows misleading claims on roasted coffee products, which are more commonly purchased by consumers. This measure addresses that gap by extending labeling requirements to roasted coffee, ensuring that only authentic Hawaii-grown coffee can be marketed as such. By imposing stricter penalties and enhancing oversight, this measure protects local farmers and preserves the integrity of Hawaii's coffee industry.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the definition of "roasted coffee";
- (2) Clarifying that each act of false labeling of Hawaii-grown coffee shall constitute a distinct and separate offense;
- (3) Adding a savings clause;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1291, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1291, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 191 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 719

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the sale, offer for sale, possession with intent to sell, display for sale, distribution, or trade of fur products in the State, with certain exceptions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Animal Rights Hawai'i; Animal Defenders International; Hawaiian Humane Society; FOUR PAWS USA; World Animal Protection; Aloha Animal Advocates; Animal Legal Defense Fund; ECOPEL; Farm Sanctuary; The Humane Society of the United States; In Defense of Animals; Humane Society Veterinary Medical Alliance; Animal Welfare Institute; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Fur Commission USA; Retail Merchants of Hawaii; Northern Wisconsin Mink Association; ANAMODA, Inc.; Fur Institute of Canada; Natural Fibers Alliance; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the sale of new animal fur products contributes to animal cruelty, public health risks, and environmental harm. Eliminating these products in Hawaii will help reduce demand for inhumane practices, promote awareness of animal welfare, and further the State's sustainability policies. This measure prohibits the sale, distribution, and trade of fur products in the State, with certain exceptions, ensuring a more humane and environmentally responsible marketplace.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to June 30, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 719, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 719, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 192 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 1184

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds for the development of a controlled-environment agriculture research and demonstration facility at the Magoon research and teaching site in Manoa, Oahu.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Hawai'i Floriculture and Nursery Association; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that a comprehensive approach to controlled-environment agriculture is essential for advancing sustainable food production in Hawaii. Establishing a state-of-the-art research and demonstration facility at the University of Hawaii at Manoa's Magoon research and teaching site will provide a platform for research, education, and industry development. This measure supports the next generation of researchers, industry leaders, and practitioners and promotes commercial-scale agricultural innovation by supporting the development of a controlled-environment agriculture research and demonstration facility.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an amount of \$6,000,000 for the issuance of general obligation bonds and appropriation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1184, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1184, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Higher Education.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 193 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 1337

The purpose of this measure is to require the University of Hawaii to establish an Endemic Plant Seed Bank Pilot Program to preserve and promote the planting of plant species that are endemic to Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that seed banks play a vital role in conserving plant biodiversity and supporting habitat restoration, particularly for Hawaii's native flora, which face significant threats from human activity. With over half of the State's endemic plant species at risk of extinction, proactive preservation efforts are critical. By requiring the University of Hawaii at Manoa to establish an Endemic Plant Seed Bank Pilot Program, this measure provides safeguards to protect these species and promote their propagation across the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifically directing the University of Hawaii at Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience to establish an Endemic Plant Seed Bank Pilot Program;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1337, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1337, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Higher Education.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 194 Agriculture & Food Systems/Tourism on H.B. No. 189

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the counties to adopt ordinances setting forth procedures and requirements for the review and permitting of agricultural tourism uses and activities as secondary uses, in addition to accessory uses, on a working farm or farming operation; and
- (2) Require the counties' ordinances to include certain requirements.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Food+ Policy; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and two individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from Heavenly Hawaiian Farms; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Kualoa Ranch; and one individual. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committees find that agricultural tourism, or agritourism, offers a vital opportunity to support Hawaii's farmers while promoting cultural heritage, sustainability, and economic growth. The agricultural sector faces challenges such as competition from imports and climate change, making diversification crucial for long-term viability. This measure allows agritourism as a secondary use on working farms and farming operations, providing farmers with an additional revenue stream while ensuring agricultural activities remain the primary focus.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have required the counties to establish certain requirements for agricultural tourism to include only those activities that are allowed under existing zoning and land use regulations;
- (2) Clarifying the definition of "productive agricultural use" to not include minimum active agricultural cultivation and annual revenue requirements;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and

(4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Agriculture & Food Systems and Tourism that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 189, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 189, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Agriculture & Food Systems: Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

Tourism: Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Matsumoto).

SCRep. 195 Water & Land on H.B. No. 491

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the State from leasing any public lands, or extending the lease of any public lands, to any individual, corporation, or federal agency that is not in good standing with the State or that has not met all financial, contractual, and legal obligations.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Chamber of Sustainable Commerce; The Queens Court; Kai Law, LLC; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Kupuna for the Moopuna; Ka Lahui Hawai'i; Kuleana Ka 'Aina; Greenpeace Hawaii; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; California-Pacific Conference of the United Methodist Church; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that this measure upholds responsible stewardship by prohibiting the leasing or renewal of public lands to entities not in good standing and providing a framework for enforcing compliance, thereby ensuring that public resources are managed in a fair, lawful, and sustainable manner.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that no lease of public lands, or extension of the lease of any public lands, shall be to individuals, corporations, or federal agencies that have been found to be in violation of federal or state laws aimed at protecting the environment, instead of convicted of a crime;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider whether to expand the vendor compliance reporting requirement to include a method of reporting outstanding debts to other agencies.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 491, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 491, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 196 Water & Land on H.B. No. 314

The purpose of this measure is to require the Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission to develop adaptation pathways plans to modify and relocate development and associated infrastructure away from critically vulnerable areas to locations outside of sea level rise and coastal flooding exposure areas.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Health; University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program and Climate Resilience Collaborative; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Coalition Earth; Surfrider Foundation Hawai'i Region; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that sea level rise and associated coastal hazards pose a significant and growing threat to Hawaii's natural and built environments, impacting communities, ecosystems, and public infrastructure. Without proactive planning, continued development in vulnerable coastal areas will result in costly damages, loss of public trust resources, and increased risks to residents and businesses. This measure requires adaptation pathways plans that promote long-term resilience through community-based planning, natural resource conservation, and strategic relocation of development away from high-risk areas.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$2,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 314, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 314, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 197 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1233

The purpose of this measure is to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the State by:

- (1) Prohibiting counties from permitting or allowing retention and detention ponds to be constructed except under certain conditions;
- (2) Creating safety requirements for Hawaii's rainwater retention and detention ponds; and
- (3) Require the Department of Health to conduct a survey of existing retention and detention ponds statewide.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition; Hawaii Water Safety Coalition; Hawaiian Lifeguard Association; Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that retention and detention ponds, while essential for stormwater management and flood control, pose significant safety risks, especially to children, due to their potential for sudden water level changes and deep standing water. The State's high drowning rate, particularly among residents and visitors, underscores the need for stronger safety measures around these water retention systems. Your Committee recognizes the concerns raised in testimony by the Department of Health that conducting safety inspections, surveying existing storm water retention and detention ponds, and developing safety requirements fall outside the function and capability of the Department and that the counties would be better positioned to carry out these tasks.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the counties, rather than the Department of Health, to establish safety standards and conduct periodic inspections of retention and detention ponds;
- (2) Requiring the counties, rather than the Department of Health, to conduct a survey of existing retention and detention ponds statewide and provide a report to the Legislature; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1233, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1233, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Health.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 198 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1358

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for the hiring of necessary staff and the purchase of equipment and professional services on behalf of the Public Land Trust Working Group.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; one trustee of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Malama Kaua'i; Hawaiian Nationals Regardless of Race; Nohopapa Hawaii, LLC; Hana Health; Ko'olauloa Hawaiian Civic Club; The Spoehr Foundation; Naalehu Theatre; Ka Lahui Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies and one individual.

Your Committee finds that Act 226, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, established a Public Lands Trust Working Group (Working Group) to determine the pro rata share of income and proceeds from the Public Land Trust due annually to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. Your Committee further finds that the Working Group has determined that information in the Public Land Trust Information System (PLTIS) developed and maintained by the Department of Land and Natural Resources is based in part on self-reporting of revenues by state agencies and counties and there has not been a third-party independent audit, review, or evaluation of the thoroughness or accuracy of the PLTIS, including existing reporting practices and determinations of what lands should be included or excluded from the PLTIS database. This measure is intended to support the efforts of the Working Group in accurately determining the pro rata share of income and proceeds due to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs by appropriating funds for a third-party review of the PLTIS.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1358, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1358, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 199 Legislative Management on H.B. No. 640

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require and appropriate funds for specialized training for all employees of the Office of the Ombudsman to develop relevant expertise relating to the child welfare system;
- (2) Require the Office of the Ombudsman to publish a quarterly report on its website that identifies the number and nature of complaints that it receives regarding the Child Welfare Services Branch of the Department of Human Services; and
- (3) Require the Child Welfare Services Branch to notify birth families, children, and resource caregivers that they can file a complaint with the Office of the Ombudsman.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Coalition for Child Protective Reform; Mālama 'Ohana Working Group; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services and Office of the Ombudsman.

Your Committee finds that the Malama Ohana Working Group, established by Act 86, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, developed recommendations to create a trauma-informed, community-based child welfare system that better supports children and families. Among these recommendations was the need for an independent method to resolve complaints related to the child welfare system. While the Office of the Ombudsman currently serves this role, greater awareness and specialized expertise are needed to ensure effective oversight. This measure mandates reporting on child welfare-related complaints and directs the Child Welfare Services Branch to inform families and caregivers of their right to file complaints.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have required and appropriated funds for specialized training for all employees of the Office of the Ombudsman to develop relevant expertise;
- (2) Clarifying the nature of complaints that must be published on the Office of the Ombudsman's website; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Legislative Management that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 640, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 640, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 200 Transportation on H.B. No. 958

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require all bicycles equipped with motors to be operated only with all wheels on the grounds at all times, with certain exceptions;
- (2) Prohibit certain actions while operating a bicycle equipped with a motor;
- (3) Define "electric bicycle" and replace the term "low-speed electric bicycle" with "electric bicycle";
- (4) Define "electric micro mobility device" and require the same regulations as electric foot scooters to apply to electric micro mobility devices;
- (5) Authorize a person to ride an electric bicycle on a sidewalk at a speed not exceeding ten miles per hour;
- (6) Prohibit a person from operating a bicycle, electric foot scooter, or electric micro mobility device under the age of eighteen without a helmet;
- (7) Substitute the term "motor drive cycle" with the term "motor scooter"; and
- (8) Appropriate funds for a coordinated education campaign on electric mobility devices.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu; one member of the Honolulu City Council; Hawai'i Bicycling League; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Moped Doctors.

Your Committee finds that the rapid increase in the use of electric bicycles and electric micro mobility devices has raised concerns about safety, especially regarding unsafe riding behaviors, lack of proper regulation, and the absence of clear rules for their operation on public roads. This measure will ensure safer operations of electric bicycles and similar devices by providing clear safety guidelines, registration requirements, and age restrictions.

Your Committee notes that the definition of "electric micro mobility device" should remain broad to encompass emerging motorized devices and ensure inclusivity for evolving technologies.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that engaging in any other non-standing or non-standard riding position is prohibited;
- (2) Prohibiting a person from operating a high-speed electric device on a public roadway, bicycle lane, and other designated areas and clarifying that a high-speed electric device does not include a moped or a motorcycle that can legally be operated on a road or street, as provided by law;
- (3) Requiring manufacturers and distributors of electric bicycles to apply a label containing the classification number, top assisted speed, and motor wattage of the electric bicycle;
- (4) Requiring distributors of electric bicycles to place a sign at or near the point of sale with certain wording regarding the regulation of electric bicycles and provide an electronic bicycle booklet or pamphlet with associated state laws about electric bicycles to purchaser;
- (5) Clarifying the definition of "electric bicycle" and separating each class of electric bicycle as separate definitions;
- (6) Inserting a weight limit of seventy-five pounds in the definition of "electric micro mobility device";
- (7) Prohibiting a person under the age of fifteen from operating a class 3 electric bicycle;
- (8) Clarifying that any person may operate a class 1 electric bicycle or class 2 electric bicycle, regardless of age;
- (9) Prohibiting a person from riding a class 3 electric bicycle on any sidewalk;
- (10) Deleting the unspecified appropriation for the Department of Transportation to conduct a coordinated education campaign on electric mobility devices;
- (11) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (12) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 958, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 958, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 201 Transportation on H.B. No. 543

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the use of license plate flipping devices.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that the use of license plate flipping devices, which allows drivers to switch or conceal their license plates, has become a growing concern for law enforcement. These devices enable individuals to evade identification, obstructing efforts to enforce traffic laws and compromising public safety. This measure seeks to take a proactive approach to prevent the potential use of license plate flipping devices to ensure law enforcement can effectively track and identify vehicles involved in illegal activities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Establishing a minimum fine of \$250 for violating the prohibition on license plate flipping devices; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 543, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 543, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 202 Transportation on H.B. No. 708

The purpose of this measure is to require and regulate insurance coverage for the operation of electric bicycles in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Kauai Path, Inc.; PeopleForBikes Coalition; Hawai'i Bicycling League; Get Fit Kauai; and seven individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committee finds that the increasing popularity of electric bicycles in Hawaii has led to a rise in accidents and injuries involving these vehicles, highlighting a gap in the existing insurance and liability framework. Many electric bicycle operators are not required to carry insurance, leaving riders and other individuals on the road vulnerable in the event of an accident. This measure ensures the safety and accountability of electric bicycle operations by mandating liability insurance.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting all references to class 1 electric bicycles and class 2 electric bicycles;
- (2) Amending the definitions of "class 3 electric bicycle" and "electric bicycle";
- (3) Specifying that electric bicycle insurance requirements only apply to a county with a population of five hundred thousand or more;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 708, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 708, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 1 (Evslin). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 203 Housing/Transportation on H.B. No. 1484

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Transit-Oriented Community Improvement Partnership and the Community Improvement Revolving Fund to coordinate transit-oriented community development; and
- (2) Authorize the Hawaii Community Development Authority to assist the Transit-Oriented Community Improvement Partnership in identifying lands and facilities that may be suitable for community improvement projects.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from one individual. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from four individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Community Development Authority.

Your Committees find that Hawaii's high cost of living, driven largely by the rising expenses of housing and transportation, continues to strain families and communities across the State. Housing projects are becoming prohibitively expensive due to added costs associated with parking and amenities. This measure will encourage transit-oriented development, thereby reducing transportation expenses and lowering overall living costs of residents.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have authorized the Hawaii Community Development Authority to assist the Transit-Oriented Community Improvement Partnership;
- (2) Changing the number of positions to unspecified numbers;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committees respectfully request your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the following number of positions:

- (1) One full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE) executive director position;
- (2) One full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE) planner position; and
- (3) One full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE) project development specialist position.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Housing and Transportation that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1484, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1484, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Housing: Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Muraoka). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

Transportation: Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Muraoka). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

SCRep. 204 Housing on H.B. No. 528

The purpose of this measure is to exempt state and county lands leased after July 1, 2025, for an initial period of no less than ninety-nine years from residential leasehold and residential leasehold condominium and cooperative housing corporation requirements.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Your Committee finds that existing residential leasehold requirements apply to all state and county lands. This measure exempts these lands for an initial period of no less than ninety-nine years from state law governing residential leasehold and residential leasehold condominium and cooperative housing corporation requirements.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 528, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 528, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 205 Housing on H.B. No. 276

The purpose of this measure is to exclude a homeowner-developer of a condominium property regime from the annual requirement to file a developer's report and pay a fee if the homeowner's development consists of no more than two units, under certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Grassroot Institute of Hawaii and one individual.

Your Committee finds that under existing law, homeowners who subdivide their property into two units under a condominium property regime are considered developers, and are therefore required to file annual reports and pay a fee, even when they are not actively selling or developing additional units. This requirement places an unnecessary burden on homeowners who permanently reside in one unit and do not intend to sell their unit in the development. This measure will alleviate the administrative and financial burden of a homeowner-developer who develops no more than two units in a condominium property regime, one of which is the homeowner-developer's primary residence.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 276, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 276, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 206 Housing on H.B. No. 463

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require that all court records of any eviction proceeding be sealed within specified timeframes upon resolution of the proceeding;
- (2) Authorize the court to seal certain eviction records prior to the expiration of these timeframes upon motion by a tenant who is able to demonstrate that certain conditions apply;
- (3) Require the clerk of the court to provide access to sealed eviction records to the tenant;
- (4) Make it a discriminatory practice to require a person to disclose a sealed eviction record as a condition of certain real property transactions; and
- (5) Prohibit discrimination in real property transactions against a person with a sealed eviction record.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Maui Housing Hui; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Hawai'i Workers Center; Medical-Legal Partnership for Children in Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Public First Law Center. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary; Department of the Attorney General; and Hawai'i Association of REALTORS.

Your Committee finds that there can be lasting negative impacts of eviction records on individuals' and families' ability to secure stable housing. Currently, the mere filing of an eviction case, regardless of its outcome or merits, stays on a tenant's record. Studies have indicated that this creates insurmountable barriers to future housing access. This measure ensures that dismissed or resolved cases do not continue to unfairly impact tenants' housing opportunities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the requirement for the court to seal all court records related to an eviction proceeding within two years if the landlord prevails and regains summary possession;
- (2) Removing provisions that made it a discriminatory practice for any person to require another person to disclose a sealed eviction record as a condition precedent to certain real property transactions;
- (3) Inserting a severability clause;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 463, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 463, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kitagawa).

SCRep. 207 Housing on H.B. No. 1467

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Strengthen Hawaii Homes Program with the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to administer grants to retrofit residential properties in historically vulnerable areas; and
- (2) Establish the Strengthen Hawaii Homes Program Special Fund and appropriate funds out of the special fund for the Strengthen Hawaii Homes Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority and Hawai'i Climate Advisory Team. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Office of Information Practices; and Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

Your Committee finds that many residential properties in the State face significant risks from natural disasters, which can lead to devastating property damage. Your Committee believes that the State should be proactive in mitigating damages caused by natural disasters by providing financial support to residents to strengthen their properties accordingly, which will enhance resilience, safety, and long-term savings in communities throughout the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Expanding the definition of "disaster";
- (2) Deleting throughout the measure all references to a historically vulnerable area and associated language;
- (3) Authorizing the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to delegate the powers and responsibilities of the Strengthen Hawaii Homes Program (Program) to a third party and contract with that third party, without regard to the Hawaii Public Procurement Code;
- (4) Clarifying the grant application process and information that must be included in the application;
- (5) Specifying that a household with an income of no more than one hundred forty percent, rather than one hundred sixty percent, has priority for the award of grants under the Program;
- (6) Deleting language that would have required improvements necessary for a residential property eligible for the Program to achieve standards of any successor designation;
- (7) Authorizing, for good cause, the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to extend the timeframe for the completion of a retrofit project;
- (8) Inserting a general fund appropriation of an unspecified amount to be deposited into the Strengthen Hawaii Homes Program Special Fund;
- (9) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (10) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, should it deliberate on this measure, to determine whether the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism or Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs is the state department best suited to oversee the Program.

Your Committee also respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$10,000,000 for the Program.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1467, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1467, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 208 Housing on H.B. No. 1096

The purpose of this measure is to repeal the tenant selection preferences for disabled veterans and spouses of deceased veterans in the State Low-Income Housing Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

Your Committee finds that the existing tenant selection preferences in the State Low-Income Housing Program create inconsistencies with federal public housing regulations, particularly regarding preferences for disabled veterans and spouses of deceased veterans. These preferences may result in unnecessary complexity and discrepancies between state and federal housing policies. This measure will align state law with federal public housing requirements by repealing the tenant selection preference for disabled veterans and spouses of deceased veterans, as these groups have access to other public housing opportunities in different programs offered by the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1096, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1096, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Public Safety.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 209 Housing on H.B. No. 737

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Redefine historic property for the purposes of the State Historic Preservation Program; and
- (2) Require historic review for proposed projects on existing privately—owned single-family detached dwelling units or townhouses only if the unit or townhouse is historic property, rather than over fifty years old.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Kaua'i County Housing Agency; Housing Hawai'i's Future; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Hawai'i YIMBY; Holomua Collaborative; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Historic Hawai'i Foundation and NAIOP Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's existing definition of "historic property" is overly broad, requiring historic review for any structure over fifty years old, regardless of its actual historical or cultural significance. This has created unnecessary delays in the permitting process, particularly for homeowners seeking to renovate or redevelop aging properties. With nearly sixty percent of Oahu's single-family homes already over fifty years old—and that number increasing each year—the backlog of historic reviews is straining the resources of the State Historic Preservation Division, leading to months-long delays. This measure refines the definition of "historic property" to focus on structures that meet clear criteria for historical significance and integrity, aligning state policy with federal historic preservation standards.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Correcting its title by changing it from "HISTORIC PRESERVATION" to read in its corrected form, "RELATING TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION";
- (2) Deleting language that would have required an application for a proposed project on an existing privately-owned single-family detached dwelling unit or townhouse to be subject to historic preservation review if the unit or townhouse is a historic property; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 737, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 737, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kitagawa).

SCRep. 210 Housing on H.B. No. 741

The purpose of this measure is to exempt certain projects funded by the Affordable Homeownership Revolving Fund from prevailing wages provisions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Hawaii Habitat for Humanity Association; Hawai'i Community Lending; and Maui Chamber of Commerce.

Your Committee finds that the high cost of construction labor, driven by prevailing wage requirements, has become a significant barrier to the development of affordable housing in the State, particularly for smaller-scale projects. These added costs often discourage developers from pursuing affordable housing projects, slowing efforts to address the critical housing shortage. This measure will alleviate this burden by exempting certain small-scale projects funded through the Affordable Homeownership Revolving Fund from prevailing wages requirements. This narrowly-tailored exemption will help nonprofit developers maximize the impact of this limited funding and produce more affordable homeownership opportunities for Hawaii residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting a purpose section;
- (2) Clarifying that an affordable housing project financed by a certified nonprofit community development financial institution utilizing less than \$1,500,000 of monies from the Affordable Homeownership Revolving Fund are exempt from prevailing wages provisions;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 741, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 741, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Labor.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 211 Housing on H.B. No. 1008

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to determine the effect of any proposed state affordable housing project within ninety days of a request for determination; and
- (2) Set forth the historic review requirements based on the project area's known historic, cultural, and archaeological resources.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; NAIOP Hawaii; and Maui Chamber of Commerce.

Your Committee finds that lengthy and backlogged historic preservation reviews prevent the timely development of affordable housing and drive up its costs. This measure would enable affordable housing units to be built at a faster pace and lower cost by creating a separate historic review process for certain proposed state affordable housing projects.

Your Committee has amended this measure:

- (1) Authorizing the Department of Land and Natural Resources to allow a proposed project to proceed under an archaeological monitoring program if the Department determines that the proposed project is located in a highly sensitive area and an archaeological inventory survey has already been previously reviewed and accepted by the Department;
- (2) Specifying that the Department of Land and Natural Resources may allow a proposed project to proceed under an archaeological monitoring program in a moderately sensitive area where an archaeological inventory survey has already been previously reviewed and accepted by the Department;
- (3) Clarifying that the Department of Land and Natural Resources shall provide its written documentation within ninety days after the filing of a complete and accurate project request;
- (4) Clarifying when an agency or officer of the State or its political subdivisions is required to obtain state inventory of historic places numbers for all historic properties identified within an affordable housing project area during the archaeological inventory survey;

- (5) Clarifying mitigation efforts an agency or officer may take if an adverse effect on a significant historic property cannot reasonably be avoided;
- (6) Clarifying the conditions and procedures in determining when work is stopped if human remains or historic properties are identified during archaeological monitoring or affordable housing project construction;
- (7) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1008, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1008, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kitagawa).

SCRep. 212 Housing on H.B. No. 467

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit sellers of foreclosed homes in a nonjudicial foreclosure from bundling properties at a public sale for sale to a single buyer and require each foreclosed home to be sold separately; and
- (2) Allow tenants, families, city and state government, affordable housing nonprofits, and community land trusts forty-five days to match or beat the best public sale bid to buy the property.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Lahaina Strong; Lahaina Community Land Trust; Northwest Community Land Trust Coalition; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that the foreclosure moratorium for borrowers with Federal Housing Administration-insured mortgages on Maui expired on January 1, 2025. This measure ensures that foreclosed properties must have individual property auctions and cannot be bundled together, which allows residents to have a greater chance to submit competitive offers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that community development financial institutions are currently collaborating with affected resident homeowners to develop proposals to bid on their property. Should your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce deliberate on this measure, your Committee respectfully requests that it consider whether to include community development financial institutions in the definition of an "eligible bidder" under this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 467, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 467, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kitagawa).

SCRep. 213 Housing on H.B. No. 466

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit landlords from terminating certain tenancies without cause;
- (2) Establish criteria under which landlords can undertake a no-fault eviction; and
- (3) Require landlords, when proceeding with a no-fault eviction, to offer relocation assistance to the tenant or waive the final month's rent.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Maui Housing Hui; Hawai'i YIMBY; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Hawaii Guerrilla Video Hui; Hawai'i Workers Center; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's high cost of housing has created a large population of long-term renters, yet existing laws allow landlords to terminate leases without cause, even when tenants have followed all terms of their rental agreements. This lack of protection leaves tenants vulnerable to sudden displacement, contributing to financial instability, housing insecurity, and, in some cases, homelessness. The fear of arbitrary evictions can also prevent tenants from reporting habitability issues, further compromising their living conditions. This measure seeks to address these concerns by prohibiting no-cause evictions, establishing clear criteria for when a landlord may lawfully terminate a tenancy, and requiring relocation assistance or a rent waiver in cases of no-fault evictions.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language throughout the measure that would have authorized a landlord to initiate a no-fault eviction at the end of the term of a rental agreement;
- (2) Reducing the amount of time a landlord is required to give a tenant to vacate the dwelling unit upon initiation of a no-fault eviction from ninety days to sixty days and reducing the amount of time the landlord must wait to list the dwelling unit as a transient vacation rental from ninety days to sixty days after a tenant vacates;
- (3) Deleting language that would have authorized a landlord to initiate a no-fault eviction if a tenant refuses to sign a new rental agreement with reasonable terms, under certain circumstances;
- (4) Deleting language that would have authorized a landlord to initiate a no-fault eviction at the end of the term of a rental agreement if a tenant submits late rent payments, under certain circumstances;
- (5) Clarifying that rental assistance is an amount equal to one month's rent;
- (6) Specifying that nothing under the measure shall be applied so as to impair any contract in a manner violative of the Hawaii State Constitution or Article I, Section 10, of the United States Constitution;

- (7) Inserting a severability clause;
- (8) Changing the effective date to January 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (9) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 466, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 466, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kitagawa).

SCRep. 214 Housing on H.B. No. 1294

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Agriculture to establish an Agricultural Workforce Housing Working Group to address the shortage and challenges of agricultural workforce housing; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the working group.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; and Hawai'i Farm Bureau. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Agriculture; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; and Land Use Commission.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's agricultural industry faces a significant workforce housing shortage, which is hindering the growth and sustainability of the agricultural sector. Limited housing options near agricultural zones have made it difficult for farmers and farm employees to secure housing that is affordable and located in proximity to their work. This measure establishes the Agricultural Workforce Housing Working Group, which can help the State explore potential policies and recommend solutions to meet the agricultural industry's need for farmworker housing while also protecting agricultural lands from non-agricultural residential uses.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Agricultural Workforce Housing Working Group is to be established within the Department of Agriculture for administrative purposes;
- (2) Removing as unnecessary language exempting the members from the State Ethics Code, as the State Ethics Commission's longstanding practice is to exclude the activities of working group members from the general provisions of the Code;
- (3) Specifying that the Department of Agriculture is required to provide administrative support to the Agricultural Workforce Housing Working Group;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1294, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1294, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 215 Housing on H.B. No. 830

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to contract its review of proposed state projects, projects on privately owned historic property, and projects affecting historic properties to third-party consultants if the Department is unable to complete its review within sixty days.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Mayor of the County of Maui; NAIOP Hawaii; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; and Maui Chamber of Commerce. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee finds that the historic preservation review process needs to streamline the timeliness of its reviews and decisions. Your Committee notes that the use of third-party consultants may not be feasible for the Department of Land and Natural Resources if the State Historic Preservation Division is required to cover the expenses associated with contracting with the third party.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Authorizing the State Historic Preservation Division to assess the costs of retaining a third-party consultant to the applicable project proponent;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 830, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 830, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kitagawa).

SCRep. 216 Housing on H.B. No. 1013

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an important agricultural lands incentive to provide alternative means to develop housing for farmers and farm employees;
- (2) Authorize a landowner or lessee of important agricultural lands to apply to a county for a permit allowing the landowner or lessee to develop, construct, and maintain farm cluster housing;

- (3) Require each county to enact ordinances to allow farm cluster housing on important agricultural lands;
- (4) Establish requirements for farm cluster housing; and
- (5) Repeal existing requirements for farm dwellings and employee housing on important agricultural lands.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; and Hawai'i Farm Bureau. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Land Use Commission and Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that Act 233, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008, was enacted as an incentive to establish and sustain viable agricultural operations on important agricultural lands by allowing the development of certain farm dwellings and employee housing. However, this law created uncertainties about whether farm dwellings and employee housing on important agricultural lands were subject to additional restrictions. This measure will streamline the development of housing on important agricultural lands by providing an option for farm cluster housing, which will reduce development and infrastructure costs of such housing, reduce the footprint and amount of agricultural land used for housing, and ensure that the housing is occupied by bona fide farmers and farm employees.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Including a definition for "short-term vacation rental", as that term and similar terms are used in the applicable county ordinance;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1013, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1013, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 217 Housing on H.B. No. 89

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for the Teacher Housing Assistance Program to provide housing vouchers to certain eligible teachers who are employed at a hard-to-fill school.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; and Education Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Education; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee finds that there is a severe shortage of qualified teachers in the State. Major contributing factors to this shortage are Hawaii's high cost of living and a lack of affordable housing. According to the Department of Education's employment report for the 2020-2021 school year, roughly fifty-seven percent of teachers who resigned cited the high cost of housing as the primary reason for leaving the State. Your Committee believes the Teacher Housing Assistance Program proposed by this measure is an important step in attracting and retaining teachers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Establishing standards for housing voucher applications under the Teacher Housing Assistance Program;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 89, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 89, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Education.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 218 Housing on H.B. No. 464

The purpose of this measure is to improve tenants' ability to secure adequate housing by:

- (1) Requiring, for tenancies greater than ninety days, a landlord to notify a tenant of any intent to raise the rent for any subsequent rental agreement or any termination of a rental agreement sixty days before the expiration of the original rental agreement;
- (2) Requiring ninety days' notice for a landlord or tenant to terminate tenancies of three years or more and sixty days' notice to terminate tenancies of less than three years, with certain exceptions; and
- (3) Increasing the amount of notice required to terminate tenancies that are less than month-to-month.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Maui Housing Hui; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Hawai'i Workers Center; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Hawai'i Association of REALTORS.

Your Committee finds that ample notice periods for rent increases and termination of rental agreements is essential for tenants to plan their housing arrangements and for landlords to manage their properties effectively. However, when a landlord exercises terminations rights under the Residential Landlord-Tenant Code, tenants may experience sudden displacement. This measure ensures housing stability for working families by increasing protections for tenants, while ensuring transparency and fairness in rental agreements.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that this measure shall not impair existing rental agreements and rental agreement renewals entered into before the effective date;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 464, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 464, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kitagawa).

SCRep. 219 Housing on H.B. No. 745

The purpose of this measure is to streamline building codes by:

- (1) Beginning January 1, 2028, superseding all existing county building codes by the most recent Hawaii state building code adopted by the State Building Code Council and thereafter allowing the counties to remove requirements set by the state building codes or add requirements to the state building codes only with prior council approval; and
- (2) Repeal the counties' authority to adopt, amend, and update the state building codes for their respective county building codes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Hawai'i YIMBY; Legislative Advocacy Committee, American Institute of Architects, Hawaii State Council; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that under existing law, the State Building Code Council is required to adopt every iteration of the International Building Code and related codes within two years of their release; the counties have an additional two years to adopt and make their amendments to the state code. Your Committee further finds that the staggered adoption process means county building officials, builders, and architects must constantly re-learn the build code requirements. This takes time and training, which can result in higher administrative costs, and can exacerbate permitting delays, which in turn can affect the price of housing. This measure removes this two-step process and ensures that a swift adoption of the state building code will be consistent statewide.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the date on which all existing county building codes are superseded by the Hawaii State Building Code;
- (2) Deleting specifications for how each county may amend the Hawaii State Building Code after the county building codes are superseded;
- (3) Changing the effective date to January 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 745, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 745, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6; Ayes with Reservations (Grandinetti). Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 220 Housing on H.B. No. 420

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify the statute of repose to make it clear that it applies to contract, tort, and statutory claims, fraudulent concealment is not a defense with respect to the repose period, and require a violation of a building code to be material to be actionable;
- (2) Clarify the required contents of a notice of claim of construction defect served on a contractor;
- (3) Amend the process and time frame for a claimant to accept a contractor's offer to settle or inspect and authorize the contractor to proceed with repairs;
- (4) Limit the amount a claimant can recover if the claimant rejects a contractor's reasonable proposal for inspection or a reasonable offer to remedy; and
- (5) Clarify the consequences of rejecting an offer of settlement.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Pacific Resource Partnership; General Contractors Association of Hawaii; Ali'i Glass & Metal, Inc.; Hawaii Laborers & Employers Cooperation and Education Trust; Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Housing Hawai'i's Future; R. M. Towill Corporation; Mutual Housing Association of Hawai'i, Inc.; Paradigm Construction LLC; Hawai'i YIMBY; Holomua Collaborative; Gentry Homes, Ltd.; D.R. Horton Hawaii; Kasdan Turner Thomson Booth, LLC; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; Operating Engineers Local 3; Raynor Hawaii Overhead Doors and Gates Inc.; Case Lombardi, A Law Corporation; KY International, Inc.; Damon Key Leong Kupchak Hastert A Law Corporation; Island Flooring; Z Contractors, Inc.; A-Plus Seamless Rain Gutters, Inc.; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the intent of the Contractor Repair Act was to foster a cooperative, good-faith process between builders and homeowners to address legitimate construction defects. However, the existing system has gone astray of that original intent. Excessive legal claims against new developments have had far-reaching consequences, including increased construction costs, higher insurance premiums, and more restrictive lending conditions. This measure intends to restore a fair dispute-resolution process for resolving construction defects, which will promote a more sustainable and affordable housing market in Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 420, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 420, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Muraoka). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kitagawa).

SCRep. 221 Housing on H.B. No. 1410

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Supportive Housing Special Fund;
- (2) Restructure the conveyance tax to a marginal rate system and adjust the tax for multifamily properties to reflect value on a per-unit basis;
- (3) Allocate revenues from conveyance tax collections to the Supportive Housing Special Fund; and
- (4) Allocate a portion of conveyance tax collections to the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund to fund infrastructure programs in county-designated transit-oriented development zones or districts that meet minimum standards of transit-supportive density.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; and Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Taxation; Department of Budget and Finance; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; and Grassroot Institute of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the State's affordable housing crisis requires immediate action to ensure sustainable growth. The existing funding mechanisms for affordable housing and supportive services are fragmented and insufficient, leaving many vulnerable populations without stable housing. This measure will restructure the conveyance tax, thereby generating dedicated revenue for affordable and supportive housing projects.

Your Committee notes the concern raised in testimony that this measure could potentially discourage adaptive reuse and your Committee will continue to work to address this concern as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring proceeds from the conveyance tax deposited into the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund to only be used to fund infrastructure programs in areas that meet minimum standards of transit-supportive density requirements;
- (2) Inserting definitions for "county-designated transit-oriented development area", "floor area ratio", and "ministerial";
- (3) Amending the definition of "transit-supportive density" to include certain development standards and other requirements;
- (4) Clarifying the calculation of the cost-of-living adjustments to conveyance tax rates;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that the Department of Taxation has requested an effective date of January 1, 2026, for this measure, to give the Department sufficient time to make changes necessary for the conveyance tax rate changes and amendments to the allocation of revenues.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1410, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1410, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 2 (Muraoka, Pierick). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 222 Housing on H.B. No. 1318

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Remove from the definition of "public lands" lands set aside by the Governor to the counties for the purpose of affordable housing; and
- (2) Allow the Board of Land and Natural Resources to issue residential leases for affordable housing with an aggregate of initial terms and extension up to ninety-nine years.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation and Kaua'i County Housing Agency. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's ongoing housing crisis requires innovative solutions to increase the supply of affordable homes, particularly on underutilized state lands. While the State has set aside certain lands for county-led affordable housing development, bureaucratic hurdles have slowed progress. This measure removes certain lands from the definition of "public lands", streamlining the approval process and enabling counties to move forward with much-needed housing projects more efficiently.

Your Committee notes that it is the intent of the Legislature to ensure that counties utilizing ceded lands are in full fulfillment of the public trust. While your Committee acknowledges the request in testimony from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to clarify the fiduciary duty to manage lands as set aside under this measure, your Committee has concerns that specifically requiring only these lands to be managed pursuant to the public trust could be construed to mean that the other exemptions to the definition of "public land" are not required to fulfill their public trust fiduciary duties and obligations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Defining "affordable housing";
- (2) Deleting language that would have authorized residential leases made by the Board of Land and Natural Resources for affordable housing to be made for an initial term of fifty-five years, not to exceed ninety-nine years;
- (3) Specifying that lands set aside by the Governor to the counties for affordable housing require legislative approval for the sale or gift of such lands; and
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1318, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1318, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Muraoka). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kitagawa).

SCRep. 223 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 461

The purpose of this measure is to require the Director of Human Resources Development, in consultation with the Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission, Hawaii State Energy Office, and Department of Accounting and General Services, to develop and implement a Commuting Choice Benefit Program for all state employees regardless of mode of transportation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State Energy Office; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services; Department of Human Resources Development; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State's policy of providing subsidized parking for state employees creates an inequitable transportation benefit and discourages the use of alternative commuting methods. Your Committee further finds that employees who walk, bike, use public transit, or car-share do not receive comparable subsidies, despite using a more environmentally friendly mode of transportation. This measure strives to provide equitable transportation benefits for all state employees, regardless of their mode of travel, through the establishment of a Commuting Choice Benefit Program.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Commuting Choice Benefit Program to conduct education and outreach regarding state employee transportation benefits;
- (2) Requiring each state department and agency to establish a Volunteer Employee Transportation Coordinator;
- (3) Requiring the Department of Human Resources Development to offer fully subsidized public transit and bikeshare passes;
- (4) Requiring the Department of Human Resources Development to develop a Parking Opt-Out Program;
- (5) Adding an appropriation of an unspecified amount for the development of the Commuting Choice Benefit Program and establishment of positions;
- (6) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent position within the Department of Human Resources Development and one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent position within the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 461, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 461, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Labor.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 224 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 790

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an installation goal for customer-sited distributed energy resources in the State;
- (2) Ensure that fair compensation is provided to distributed energy resources exports as part of grid service programs; and
- (3) Authorize retail wheeling of renewable energy and require the Public Utilities Commission to establish policies and procedures to implement retail wheeling and microgrid service tariffs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State Energy Office; Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority; Sunrun; Photonworks Engineering; Credence Projects LLC; Energy Advisors, LLC; Enphase Energy, Inc.; Hawaii Solar Energy Association; Holu Hou Energy; and seven individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaiian Electric; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1260; and Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Public Utilities Commission; and Life of the Land.

Your Committee finds that customer-sited distributed energy resources, such as rooftop solar and energy storage systems, play a critical role in meeting the State's renewable energy goals. This measure seeks to increase renewable energy usage by establishing an installation goal for customer-sited distributed energy resources and ensuring fair compensation is provided to distributed energy resource exports.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the deadline for the distributed energy resources installation goal to December 31, 2030;
- (2) Clarifying that the Public Utilities Commission may, but is not required to, use tariffs for grid services programs and community-based renewable energy;
- (3) Removing an exemption from the definition of "public utility" relating to microgrid construction, maintenance, or operation and the authorization for the Public Utilities Commission to use tariffs for microgrids and retail wheeling;
- (4) Changing the rate at which energy exported to the electric grid as part of a grid service program will be credited to a rate sufficient to encourage the deployment of distributed energy resources in order to meet the goal of December 31, 2030;
- (5) Removing the authorizations for microgrids and retail wheeling;
- (6) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 790, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 790, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 225 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 932

The purpose of this measure is to establish a Green Bonds Working Group to develop recommendations for creating a green bonds financing program for Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Hawaii Food+ Policy; and Coalition Earth. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that green bonds are specifically aimed at funding projects that have positive environmental impacts and include investments in renewable energy, energy efficiency, clean transportation, sustainable agriculture, and green infrastructure. This measure helps evaluate the potential for the establishment of a green bonds financing program for the State by establishing a Green Bonds Working Group.

Your Committee amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 932, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 932, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 226 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 1077

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Department of Defense to fund projects that strengthen the State's resiliency against climate change;
- (2) Require the Department of Defense to convene a selection committee to review and recommend projects to receive an allocation of monies from the Climate Mitigation and Resiliency Special Fund;
- (3) Establish the Climate Mitigation and Resiliency Special Fund;
- (4) Establish the Economic Development and Revitalization Special Fund;
- (5) Increase the Transient Accommodations Tax and allocate a portion of the tax to the Climate Mitigation and Resiliency Special Fund and the Economic Development and Revitalization Special Fund; and
- (6) Appropriate funds into and out of the special funds established in this measure.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Governor; Office of the Governor Recovery and Resiliency Unit; Hawai'i Climate Advisory Team; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency; Hawaii State Energy Office; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation Commission; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Hawai'i Land Trust; Coalition Earth; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Pacific Whale Foundation; Care for 'Āina Now Coalition; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from 3 G International, Inc.; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and eight individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Taxation; Hawai'i Tourism Authority; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; and Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association.

Your Committee finds that the State is experiencing a climate emergency that is threatening the health and well-being of Hawaii's residents and environment. This measure establishes funding mechanisms to advance projects addressing climate change, including the establishment of the Climate Mitigation and Resiliency Special Fund and Economic Development and Revitalization Special Fund.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriations to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the following appropriation amounts:

- (1) \$50,000,000 into and out of the Climate Mitigation and Resiliency Special Fund;
- (2) \$90,000,000 out of the Climate Mitigation and Resiliency Special Fund; and
- (3) \$90,000,000 out of the Economic Development and Revitalization Special Fund.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1077, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1077, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committees on Economic Development & Technology and Tourism.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 227 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 1307

The purpose of this measure is to provide follow-up funding for the next steps in the investigation, exploration, and identification of geothermal resources on Hawaiian home lands.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Hawaiian Electric; Sustainable Energy Hawai'i; Ulupono Initiative; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals.

Your Committee finds that geothermal resources can provide a stable alternative to biofuels. Your Committee further finds that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands has been provided funding for the investigation, exploration, and identification of geothermal resources on Hawaiian home lands. However, the

Department of Hawaiian Home Lands requires additional funding for water well development at certain sites for further exploration of geothermal resources. This measure appropriates follow-up funding for this purpose.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$20,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1307, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1307, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 228 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 1459

The purpose of this measure is to establish requirements for commercial airlines to utilize at least ten per cent sustainable aviation fuel in intrastate flights beginning January 1, 2030, to be increased annually by five per cent until January 1, 2045, at which time one hundred per cent sustainable aviation fuel will be required.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Coalition Earth; Blue Planet Foundation; Biotechnology Innovation Organization; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Alaska x Hawaiian Airlines; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Energy Justice Network; and Airlines for America. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Twelve Benefit Corporation.

Your Committee finds that sustainable aviation fuel offers a promising alternative to conventional fuels and can help minimize carbon emissions while fostering economic growth in the clean energy sector. This measure helps increase sustainable aviation fuel usage by requiring commercial airlines to utilize at least ten per cent sustainable aviation fuel in intrastate airline flights by January 1, 2030.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the annual five per cent increases for sustainable aviation fuel usage and the requirement for one hundred per cent sustainable aviation fuel usage;
- (2) Removing the requirement that the Department of Transportation collaborate with various entities for the development and funding of sustainable aviation fuel;
- (3) Requiring the Department of Transportation to adopt rules in consultation with the Hawaii State Energy Office;
- (4) Removing the requirement that the Department of Transportation adopt rules to incentivize the development and use of sustainable aviation fuels;
- (5) Amending the definition of "sustainable aviation fuel" to mean liquid fuels that consist of synthesized hydrocarbons, meet certain standards, and are derived from biomass resources, waste streams, renewable or zero carbon energy sources, or gaseous carbon oxides;
- (6) Removing the appropriation;
- (7) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1459, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1459, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Transportation.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 229 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 1495

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Keauhou Aquifer System Monitoring Pilot Program and appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to install two monitoring wells in the Keauhou Aquifer System.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Keauhou Aquifer System is a vital water source that sustains local communities, ecosystems, and cultural practices. Your Committee further finds that the Keauhou Aquifer System faces ongoing challenges due to water demand and overuse. Your Committee recognizes the importance of monitoring these vital water resources and believes this measure will address this need by establishing a Keauhou Aquifer System Monitoring Pilot Project and appropriating funds for the installation of two monitoring wells in the Keauhou Aquifer System.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the Keauhou Aquifer System Monitoring Pilot Project by:
 - (A) Clarifying that the Commission on Water Resource Management may work with other agencies;
 - (B) Clarifying that the Commission will conduct water salinity tests and include water salinity analysis in reports to the Legislature;
 - (C) Adding additional responsibilities related to monitoring, public outreach, and planning; and
 - (D) Requiring the Department of Land and Natural Resources to determine whether to continue, expand, or end the Keauhou Aquifer System Monitoring Pilot Project based on its assessment of the Pilot Project;
- (2) Adding an appropriation for the Keauhou Aquifer System Monitoring Pilot Project;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and

(4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the appropriation amounts of:

- (1) \$200,000 for the Keauhou Aquifer System Monitoring Pilot Project; and
- (2) \$163,000 for the installation of two monitoring wells in the Keauhou Aquifer System.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1495, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1495, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 230 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 982

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Wildfire Recovery Fund; and
- (2) Allow for securitization for electric utilities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Climate Advisory Team; Kalaeloa Partners LP; Plus Power; Ulupono Initiative; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1260; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; Sustainable Energy Hawai'i; Par Hawaii; Kauai'i Island Utility Cooperative; Hawaiian Electric; Retail Merchants of Hawaii; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Ameresco; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce; Clearway Energy Group; AES Hawai'i; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; North Kohala Community Resource Center; Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce; Hawaii Fire Fighters Association; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaii Insurers Council; Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters; Pacific Resource Partnership; and Hawaii Association for Justice. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of the Governor; Department of the Attorney General; Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Division of Consumer Advocacy of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Public Utilities Commission; and Life of the Land.

Your Committee finds that the increasing risk of catastrophic wildfires in Hawaii has heightened the threat of property damage, and the litigation process for compensation is costly and inefficient. To address this, an administrative claims process will provide a faster, low-cost alternative for claimants while preserving their right to litigation and ensuring the financial stability of regulated utilities. This measure also supports securitization as an efficient funding mechanism, balancing wildfire recovery efforts with the long-term resilience of Hawaii's utility infrastructure.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Expanding the definition of "catastrophic wildfire" to include wildfires that, for an electric cooperative with less than fifty thousand residential members, cause a certain dollar amount of potential claims to be determined by Executive Director of the Wildfire Recovery Fund;
- (2) Clarifying that the definition of "qualified damages" means economic damages;
- (3) Requiring a person or entity to provide a comparison of costs for current commercial insurance coverage compared to wildfire property damage and loss, in order to be eligible to participate as a contributor;
- (4) Changing the initial contributions from investor-owned electric utilities to be \$500,000,000, to be recovered from customers, and \$505,000,000 to be funded by shareholders;
- (5) Clarifying that an error resulting from the failure of a system, process, or program to prevent the error could qualify as a basis for a finding of imprudence;
- (6) Requiring the Executive Director of the Wildfire Recovery Fund to submit an annual report regarding the Wildfire Recovery Fund to the Public Utilities Commission in addition to the Legislature;
- (7) Amending the definition of "financing costs" to mean reasonable costs to issue, service, repay, or refinance bonds and include costs related to the engagement of services of a financial advisor by the Public Utilities Commission;
- (8) Removing professional fees, consultant fees, redemption premiums, tender premiums, and other costs incurred by the electric utility in using proceeds of bonds to acquire outstanding securities from the definition of "wildfire recovery costs";
- (9) Clarifying that an application for a financing order shall include only a description of how wildfire recovery costs will be allocated among consumers;
- (10) Requiring the Public Utilities Commission to issue approval or denial of any application for a financing order within ninety days of the last filing in the applicable docket;
- (11) Requiring the Public Utilities Commission to consider whether the issuance of bonds and imposition and collection of wildfire recovery charges are consistent with the public interest;
- (12) Clarifying that wildfire recovery charges and any associated fixed recovery tax amounts will be imposed only on existing and future customers in the utility service territory of the electric utility subject to such financing order;
- (13) Clarifying that section B-3(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to wildfire recovery financing order, shall not preclude actions that would not adversely affect the interests of the electric utility, assignees of wildfire recovery property, and bondholders;
- (14) Requiring periodic true-up adjustments to wildfire recovery charges to consider interest on ratepayer investments into the Wildfire Recovery Fund;
- (15) Authorizing the Public Utilities Commission to engage the services of a financial advisor to assist in its consideration of an application for a financing order;
- (16) Clarifying that the Legislature authorizes the issuance of special revenue bonds for costs that require an allocation of the annual state ceiling for private activity bonds;
- (17) Authorizing project agreements entered into in connection with the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to finance costs to include a project agreement with an affiliate of an electric or gas utility;
- (18) Clarifying that the Legislature authorizes the allocation of the annual state ceiling to the issuance of bonds that require allocation in order for the interest on the bonds to be tax-exempt;

- (19) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (20) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes the concerns raised in the testimony submitted by the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs regarding the need for Hawaiian Electric to issue further evidence and quantitative analysis regarding how it reached the \$1.005 billion initial contribution amount.

Your Committee recognizes that there is a need to determine when it is appropriate for the Wildfire Recovery Fund to end, should the insurance market and the public utility's credit rating stabilize, and how, upon the Fund ending, ratepayers would get refunded.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 982, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 982, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committees on Consumer Protection & Commerce and Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 231 Energy & Environmental Protection/Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 760

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Reenact the Agricultural Development and Food Security Special Fund;
- (2) Establish and appropriate funds into the Carbon Emissions Tax and Dividend Special Fund;
- (3) Establish a refundable Carbon Cashback Tax Credit to mitigate the impact of a carbon emissions tax on lower-income taxpayers; and
- (4) Amend the Environmental Response, Energy, and Food Security Tax by taxing fossil fuels based on their emissions.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; Citizens' Climate Lobby Hawaii; Carbon Cashback Hawaii; Climate Future Forum; Coalition Earth; Citizens Climate Lobby at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Haiku Laboratories; and numerous individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from Life of the Land; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Retail Merchants of Hawaii; Greenpeace Hawaii; Hawaiian Islands Republican Women; Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative; and numerous individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Health; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; Airlines for America; and Maui Chamber of Commerce.

Your Committees find that there is an urgent need to reduce Hawaii's greenhouse gas emissions in order to meet the State's zero emissions clean economy goal. This measure addresses this need by taxing fossil fuels based on their emissions and establishing a tax credit to mitigate the effect of the tax on taxpayers, establishing a Carbon Emissions Tax and Dividend Special Fund, and reenacting the Agricultural Development and Food Security Special Fund.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the Carbon Cashback Tax Credit by:
 - (A) Expanding eligibility to any Hawaii taxpayer who files an individual income tax return; and
 - (B) Changing the qualifications for the amount of tax credit a taxpayer will receive to be based on filing status and number of dependents instead of income;
- (2) Clarifying that unspecified percentages of Environmental Response, Energy, Carbon Emissions, and Food Security Tax paid on all petroleum products, rather than the tax paid on just certain fuels for airplanes and small boats, shall be deposited into the Airport Revenue Fund and Boating Special Fund, respectively;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and Agriculture & Food Systems that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 760, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 760, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.
Energy & Environmental Protection: Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).
Agriculture & Food Systems: Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 232 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 547

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish and appropriate funds into a Spay and Neuter Special Fund to reduce pet overpopulation and the reproduction of free-roaming cats; and
- (2) Establish various revenue and fundraising sources for the Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Animal Interfaith Alliance in Britain; Animal Rights Hawai'i; AdvoCATS, Inc.; Hawaiian Humane Society; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Aloha Animal Advocates; Pele Lani Farm, LLC; Big Island Invasive Species Committee; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Taxation; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that feral cats have become a significant issue in Hawaii, particularly in suburban and urban areas, where their growing population threatens native wildlife, disrupts ecosystems, and raises public health concerns. Spaying and neutering are effective methods for reducing pet overpopulation and humanely managing free-roaming cat populations. Despite the benefits, the State currently provides no dedicated funding to address these issues. Therefore, to support these efforts, this measure establishes a Spay and Neuter Special Fund, along with various revenue and fundraising sources, to help control pet overpopulation and reduce the number of free-roaming cats in a humane and sustainable manner.

Your Committee notes the concerns of the Department of Budget and Finance regarding its lack of subject-matter expertise to properly administer the Spay and Neuter Special Fund and possibly appropriating funds directly to the counties, who have historically been responsible for animal control functions.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Moving language that authorizes the proposed check-off option for the spaying and neutering of animals for income tax purposes to section 235-102.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (2) Changing the appropriation amounts to unspecified amounts;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully respects your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$50,000 to be appropriated into and out of the Spay and Neuter Special Fund to reduce pet overpopulation and the reproduction of free-roaming cats.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 547, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 547, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Culture & Arts.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 233 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 1185

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a working group to study and report on how best to grow plants and develop plant-based building materials in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's climate provides an ideal environment for cultivating plant-based materials that can be processed into sustainable building materials. Fast-growing resources like clumping bamboo, industrial hemp, and biocements offer strong, flexible, and environmentally friendly alternatives to traditional materials while also supporting carbon sequestration. To explore this potential, this measure establishes and funds a working group to study and develop strategies for growing and producing plant-based building materials in Hawaii, which could result in the creation of green, agricultural jobs and help the State meet its net negative carbon and greenhouse gas emission reduction goals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that this measure is a matter of statewide concern;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1185, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1185, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Higher Education.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 234 Agriculture & Food Systems/Tourism on H.B. No. 966

The purpose of this measure is to establish statewide, uniform standards to promote agricultural tourism activities in the State by:

- (1) Creating agricultural tourism activity requirements that are applicable to all counties that have adopted an agricultural tourism ordinance;
- (2) Requiring agricultural tourism activities to be registered by the respective county planning commission; and
- (3) Requiring agricultural tourism activities to coexist with an agricultural activity on a farming operation and providing for the termination of agricultural tourism activities upon the cessation of the agricultural activity.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from Heavenly Hawaiian Farms; Covfefe Coffee Farm; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Coffee Growers Association; Rising Kona Coffee Farm Tours; Kailua Kona Estate; Hawaii Coffee Association; and one individual. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Kualoa Ranch; and two individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Tourism Authority; Mahina Farms, Maui LLC; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; and one individual.

Your Committees find that agricultural tourism is becoming an essential revenue stream for farms and ranches nationwide, helping to sustain agricultural operations. However, Hawaii's inconsistent county-level permitting processes create regulatory barriers that hinder the growth of agricultural tourism and limit its potential as a viable business model. A uniform statewide framework would encourage investment, support regenerative tourism efforts, and strengthen partnerships between farmers and local businesses. To achieve this, this measure establishes consistent agricultural tourism activity requirements, mandates county planning commission registration, and ensures that agricultural tourism remains tied to active farming operations.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have prohibited revenue from all agricultural tourism activities on a farming operation from exceeding revenue from the agricultural activity conducted on the farming operation;
- (2) Clarifying that agricultural tourism shall only be allowed on land on which productive agricultural use is occurring;
- (3) Removing language that would have prohibited a person from staying in overnight accommodations included with agricultural tourism activities for longer than twenty-one days in total within one county during any one-year period;
- (4) Clarifying that agricultural tourism activities shall be registered by the owner or lessee with the county planning department, rather than county planning commission;
- (5) Expanding agricultural-based commercial operations to include a roadside stand or retail activities in an enclosed structure under three hundred square feet that is on a trailer;
- (6) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and

(7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Agriculture & Food Systems and Tourism that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 966, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 966, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Agriculture & Food Systems: Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

Tourism: Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Matsumoto).

SCRep. 235 Labor on H.B. No. 755

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations:

- (1) By January 1, 2028, to establish a Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program and begin collecting payroll contributions; and
- (2) By January 1, 2029, to begin receiving claims and paying benefits under the Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Wellness and Resilience; Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; two members of the Kaua'i County Council; ACLU of Hawai'i; American Association of University Women of Hawaii; AARP Hawai'i; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Chamber of Sustainable Commerce; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Hawai'i Appleseed; Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i Nurses' Association; Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Hawai'i Workers Center; Hawaii Teamsters and Allied Workers Local 996; Healthy Eating Active Living Coalition; International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees Local 665; Kūpuna Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Imua Alliance; Leukemia and Lymphoma Society; Papa Ola Lōkahi; Pride at Work; Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the 604 Hospitality Group LLC; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO; Hawaii Restaurant Association; Highway Inn; Kuleana Rum Works; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Retail Merchants of Hawaii; Society of Human Resource Management-Hawaii; and Tiki's Grill and Bar. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's working families are not adequately supported during times of caregiving and illness. While the federal Family and Medical Leave Act allows twelve weeks of unpaid leave to employees who have worked at a business that employs fifty or more employees, the majority of Hawaii's workforce cannot afford to take unpaid leave to care for a new child or attend to the needs of a family member with a serious health condition. Your Committee believes this measure ensures that employees in Hawaii are provided family and medical leave insurance benefits when they need to provide care for their families.

Your Committee amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the definition of "application year" and replacing the term with "benefit year";
- (2) Inserting a definition of "benefit year";
- (3) Replacing the term "application" with "claim", to eliminate ambiguity;
- (4) Adjusting the minimum earning requirement for a covered individual from \$400 to \$5,040, to reflect what the minimum wage will be in 2028;
- (5) Inserting a definition of "designated person" and including this term in the definition of "family member";
- (6) Including the spouse or domestic partner of a covered individual's sibling in the definition of "family member";
- (7) Inserting a definition of "wage";
- (8) Clarifying when family and medical leave insurance benefits must first be paid and how often;
- (9) Specifying a deadline to file a claim for family and medical leave insurance benefits;
- (10) Clarifying that family and medical leave insurance benefits will not be payable until the covered individual accrues at least eight hours of family and medical insurance benefits leave;
- (11) Removing language that would have limited the sequential use of accrued family and medical leave hours;
- (12) Adding language to clarify that this measure does not conflict with the Employee Retirement Income Security Act and the Prepaid Health Care Act;
- (13) Adding language to prevent simultaneous payments for vacation, sick, or other earned leave benefits and for family and medical leave insurance benefits when a covered individual uses accrued leave while receiving family and medical leave insurance benefits;
- (14) Clarifying that family and medical leave insurance benefits may be subject to federal income tax but are not subject to state income tax;
- (15) Authorizing the use of funds from the Family and Medical Leave Trust Fund to establish information technology and data systems for the Family and Medical Leave Program;
- (16) Repealing statutory language that prohibits an employee from using accrued sick leave for family leave purposes;
- (17) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (18) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the establishment of 120 positions required for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to successfully administer this program, as requested by the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations in written testimony.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 755, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 755, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 236 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 364

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit the ownership of a cat over the age of three months, unless the cat is surgically sterilized, with some exemptions;
- (2) Authorize the county animal control authority to administer a breeding cat permit program; and
- (3) Establish a special fund to be:
 - (A) Administered by the Department of Budget and Finance, with the assistance of an advisory committee, to provide monies for the reduction of pet overpopulation in the State; and
 - (B) Funded by fees, an income tax designation, and special motor vehicle number plates.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Fur-Angel Foundation; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Animal Interfaith Alliance in Britain; American Bird Conservancy; Love a Cat Charity; Hawaiian Humane Society; Hui Ho'omalua i ka 'Aina; Cat Colony Caregivers Honolulu; Pacific Whale Foundation; Lucky Paws; The Wildlife Society Hawai'i Chapter; Animal Rights Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Aloha Animal Advocates; Pele Lani Farm LLC; Cat Fanciers of Hawaii Cat Club; and eight individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Department of the Attorney General; Department of Budget and Finance; Hawaii Board of Veterinary Medicine; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the State is experiencing a cat overpopulation crisis that endangers cats, other domestic animals, wildlife, and human communities. Your Committee further finds that one of the most effective strategies to address the cat overpopulation is to encourage the sterilization of pet cats and free-roaming cats. This measure takes an important step in addressing cat overpopulation by requiring the sterilization of cats over a certain age and establishing a breeding cat permit program.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the advisory committee is established within the Department of Budget and Finance;
- (2) Amending the age for requiring the sterilization of male cats from three months of age to five months of age;
- (3) Clarifying that one of the offenses for disqualifying an applicant for a breeding cat permit is a conviction for the offense of cruelty to animals by trapping, rather than the offense of pet animal or equine animal desertion;
- (4) Deleting the funding mechanism for the Spay and Neuter Special Fund through the issuance of new special motor vehicle number plates;
- (5) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (6) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion;
- (7) Changing the effective date for the administration of the income tax designation to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that the Hawaii Board of Veterinary Medicine raised concerns in its written testimony that the age of three months old may be too early for the sterilization of cats, as it could lead to increased difficulty in treating lower urinary tract disease and urethral obstructions. Accordingly, your Committee amended this measure to raise the age for which the sterilization of male cats is required to five months of age. However, your Committee notes that similar concerns also exist for female cats. As such, should your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs deliberate on this measure, your Committee respectfully requests that it consider raising the age for which the sterilization of female cats is required from three months of age to five months of age.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$500,000 into and out of the Spay and Neuter Special Fund.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 364, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 364, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 2 (Kong, Pierick). Excused, 1 (Lowen).

SCRep. 237 Water & Land on H.B. No. 867

The purpose of this measure is to enhance the inclusion of physically disabled youth in important socialization activities by:

- (1) Requiring by June 30, 2027, all playgrounds located in state parks and on public school grounds to have a minimal set of special needs recreational playground equipment, including a wheelchair accessible swing set; and
- (2) Appropriating funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Department of Education to purchase and install special needs recreational playground equipment.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Education; Department of Land and Natural Resources' Division of State Parks; and Disability and Communication Access Board.

Your Committee finds that accessible recreational spaces are essential for the physical, social, and emotional development of all children, including those with disabilities. Currently, many state parks and public school playgrounds lack equipment that accommodates physically disabled youth, limiting their ability to engage in play, interact with peers, and participate fully in their communities. Ensuring that playgrounds include disability-compatible equipment will promote inclusivity and foster an environment where all children can enjoy recreation and socialization.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Beginning on June 30, 2030, requiring all new playgrounds constructed in state parks and public schools to include accessible recreational equipment, rather than requiring the installation of accessible recreational equipment in all playgrounds located in state parks and public schools by June 30, 2027;
- (2) Changing all references from "special needs recreational playground equipment" to "accessible recreational playground equipment";
- (3) Removing the requirement that playgrounds include a wheelchair accessible swing set;

- (4) Renaming the special fund created by this measure the "Accessible Recreational Playground Equipment Special Fund";
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 867, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 867, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Education.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 238 Housing on H.B. No. 295

The purpose of this measure is to amend the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920, as amended, to authorize the transfer of a living beneficiary's place on the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' waitlist for any residential, agricultural, or pastoral tract to a successor who is at least one twenty-fifth Hawaiian, if the beneficiary dies.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands has faced significant challenges in reducing the waitlist for beneficiaries, with many eligible individuals experiencing prolonged delays. These delays have caused hardship, particularly for the families of beneficiaries who have passed away before securing a homestead. This measure will ensure that intergenerational inequities are not compounded by enabling children and other immediate relatives of beneficiaries who die while on the waitlist to succeed to the land that their family member was never able to rightfully inhabit and enjoy while alive.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting a definition for "qualified application successor" and specifying that the individual must be at least one-fourth Hawaiian;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 295, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 295, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 239 Housing on H.B. No. 738

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Create a process for expediting the review of residential transit-oriented development on certain parcels within county-designated transit-oriented development zones that have a low risk of affecting historically significant resources;
- (2) Further empower lead agencies, including county governments, to make determinations on the potential effects of a project;
- (3) Create a ninety-day limit to concur or not concur with project effect determinations; and
- (4) Ensure that projects with written concurrence are exempt from further review unless there is a significant change to the project.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Hawai'i YIMBY; NAIOP Hawaii; Holomau Collaborative; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawaii Community Development Authority; and Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that there is an urgent need for more housing development throughout the State, especially in transit-oriented areas. Your Committee acknowledges that preserving Hawaii's cultural heritage in historic properties and burial sites is essential to the State's identity and history. This measure will streamline historic property review processes for residential transit-oriented development in areas with low risk to historically significant resources, while empowering agencies to ensure cultural preservation and enabling timely housing construction.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Expanding the historic property review process to include mixed-use transit-oriented development as long as a majority of the mixed-use transit-oriented development is residential;
- (2) Clarifying the components of the programmatic agreement between the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the project applicant;
- (3) Clarifying that if the Department of Land and Natural Resources fails to issue notice or non-concurrence within ninety days, or within thirty days if no historic properties are to be affected, of a complete and true submittal, concurrence is assumed, and the project may proceed;
- (4) Exempting a project from further review by the Department of Land and Natural Resources unless there is a change to the project's physical scope of work;
- (5) Specifying that an agent or officer may appeal the Department of Land and Natural Resources' failure to provide written concurrence or non-concurrence within the ninety-day review period;
- (6) Defining "lead agency";
- (7) Clarifying what triggers further review of a project by the Department of Land and Natural Resources once the Department has provided written concurrence for state projects, privately owned historic properties, and proposed projects;
- (8) Expanding the methods to address levels of risk for the lower two effect levels of parcel classifications to include archaeological field surveys, excavation, or onsite monitoring;
- (9) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and

(10) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 738, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 738, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, 2 (Muraoka, Pierick). Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kitagawa).

SCRep. 240 Public Safety on H.B. No. 1002

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Extend the term of the Oversight Coordinator of the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission, beginning July 1, 2025; and
- (2) Clarify that the Oversight Coordinator has the general authority to inspect agencies and correctional facilities without notice.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission; Office of the Public Defender; Community Alliance on Prisons; American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

Your Committee finds that a two-year term for the Oversight Coordinator does not provide sufficient time for the individual to fully understand the role, build relationships, or develop and implement meaningful policies or projects. Your Committee further finds that unfettered access to information and correctional facilities allows the Oversight Coordinator to uncover and address issues like poor conditions or abuse, ensuring humane treatment and fostering public trust in the corrections system.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Extending the term of the Oversight Coordinator by three years rather than four years;
- (2) Authorizing the Hawaii Correctional System Commission to review the Coordinator's performance and make a recommendation to the Governor as to whether the Coordinator should be retained for an additional term;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1002, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1002, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ichiyama, Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 241 Public Safety on H.B. No. 358

The purpose of this measure is to improve the State's preparedness for stronger hurricanes by requiring all public buildings, including public school buildings, constructed after January 1, 2026, to be designed to withstand category five hurricanes and be used as shelters in the event of an emergency.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency; Hawai'i Climate Advisory Team; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education; Department of Accounting and General Services; and Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

Your Committee finds that in light of the potential for stronger and more frequent hurricanes caused by climate change, Hawaii needs greater number of public buildings that can also serve as hurricane shelters. By requiring that all public buildings constructed after January 1, 2026, to be able to withstand category five hurricanes will help ensure that public buildings will be able to protect Hawaii's residents and visitors in case of an emergency.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 358, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 358, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Labor.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 1 (Shimizu). Excused, 3 (Ichiyama, Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 242 Public Safety on H.B. No. 1376

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the State to phase out the use of private correctional facilities to incarcerate Hawaii inmates; and
- (2) Prohibit the construction of new correctional facilities or the expansion of existing correctional facilities without the approval of the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from ACLU Hawai'i; Imua Alliance; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to the measure from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that the State has relied on private, out-of-state prisons to house a significant number of the State's incarcerated individuals for more than two decades. These individuals are serving their sentences away from family, friends, and their support systems. Your Committee further finds that the State is currently planning for the construction of a new correctional facility. This new facility, along with a shift to focusing on diversion, should allow the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to reduce the number of inmates at out-of-state prisons.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting its preamble;

- (2) Deleting language that would have prohibited the State from committing, transferring, or housing any inmate at a private correctional facility beginning on July 1, 2030;
- (3) Adding language to require that:
 - (A) Beginning July 1, 2028, the Director of Corrections and Rehabilitation (Director) reduce the number of committed felons incarcerated at private, out-of-state correctional institutions by twenty-five percent; and
 - (B) Beginning July 1, 2030, the Director reduce the number of committed felons incarcerated at private, out-of-state correctional institutions by fifty percent;
- (4) Requiring the Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections to report to the Legislature on its actions and progress in meeting the requirements of paragraph (2);
- (5) Deleting language that would have prohibited the construction of new correctional facilities or the expansion of existing correctional facilities without the approval of the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission;
- (6) Changing the effective date to July, 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1376, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1376, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ichiyama, Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 243 Public Safety on H.B. No. 1263

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a moratorium on the issuance of a request for proposals and construction of any new or expanded correctional facility from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2028, including the planned construction of a new facility to replace the existing Oahu Community Correctional Center; and
- (2) Establish a Criminal Justice Diversion Task Force.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Community Alliance on Prisons; Hawai'i Friends of Restorative Justice; Reimagining Public Safety in Hawai'i Coalition; Green Party of Hawai'i; Imua Alliance; 'Ekolu Mea Nui; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; Department of Accounting and General Services; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission.

Your Committee finds that there needs to be a stronger focus on rehabilitation and re-entry services to assist persons who are currently incarcerated.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the three-year moratorium;
- (2) Deleting the Criminal Justice Diversion Task Force;
- (3) Requiring the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to establish a Rehabilitation and Re-Entry Services Task Force;
- (4) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation of \$100,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1263, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1263, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ichiyama, Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 244 Public Safety on H.B. No. 1502

The purpose of this measure is to establish requirements for property and casualty insurance policies for pre- and post- disaster protections.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement; Ho'ōla iā Mauiakama Disaster Long Term Recovery Group; and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Insurers Council. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies.

Your Committee finds that the overwhelming majority of insurance policyholders who were affected by the Maui wildfires of August 2023 were underinsured and face financial uncertainty about their ability to rebuild. Your Committee further finds that this measure addresses this problem by establishing pre- and post-disaster protections for policyholders. This measure is a critical step in learning from previous disasters to assist survivors of future disasters with recovery.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the preamble;
- (2) Deleting various provisions related to notice of cancellation or nonrenewal; insurance disclosures; grace periods; adjustment of premium policy limits post disaster; close of claims and extensions; inquiries; and reductions in time to file a claim;
- (3) Modifying requirements for property and casualty insurance policies for pre- and post- disaster protections regarding:
 - (A) Claims for additional living expenses under homeowners insurance policies during states of emergency;

- (B) A total loss of contents as well as contents coverage during states of emergency; and
- (C) Minimum requirements for losses due to emergencies;
- (4) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1502, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1502, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 1 (Shimizu). Excused, 2 (Ichiyama, Morikawa).

SCRep. 245 Public Safety on H.B. No. 1064

The purpose of this measure is to effectuate the recommendations of the "Phase 3" Forward-Looking Report by Fire Safety Research Institute on the August 2023 Maui wildfires.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Governor; Department of Defense; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Hawai'i Climate Advisory Team; Lāhainā Strong; Wildfire Safety Advocated of Waikōloa; Hawaii Insurers Council; Hawaiian Electric; Kamehameha Schools; AARP Hawai'i; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; State Fire Council; and Hawai'i Wildfire Management Organization.

Your Committee finds that in the aftermath of the August 2023 fires on Maui, the Department of Attorney General initiated an investigation and retained the independent, third party Fire Safety Research Institute. The investigation led to three reports, the last of which, the "Phase 3 Forward-Looking Report, called for changes and improvements to the Office of the State Fire Marshal, which was recently established by Act 209, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024. This measure takes action on a number of those recommendations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) More closely aligning the duties of the Office of the State Fire Marshal with what currently exists in statute;
- (2) Requiring the Office of the State Fire Marshal to develop and administer a Community Risk Reduction Program;
- (3) Establishing the Community Risk Reduction Special Fund;
- (4) Requiring biennial reporting to the Legislature;
- (5) Establishing an advisory board within the Office of the State Fire Marshal;
- (6) Adding an appropriation in an unspecified amount for the operations and work of the Office of the State Fire Marshal;
- (7) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1064, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1064, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Ichiyama, Morikawa).

SCRep. 246 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1324

The purpose of this measure is to increase access to representation for residential tenants in actions or proceedings for possession by:

- (1) Providing for state-funded access to legal services for residential tenants;
- (2) Authorizing attorneys, paralegals, and law students to provide the legal services; and
- (3) Appropriating funds to the Judiciary to contract with legal service organizations or clinical training programs to carry out this purpose.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary and Department of Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that providing legal representation for tenants facing eviction is crucial. It helps level the playing field against landlords, significantly increases the chances of a positive outcome for tenants, and can prevent the devastating consequences of eviction, including homelessness. This measure will ensure that Hawaii's low-income tenants have a fair opportunity to protect their housing rights.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the definition of "eligible residential tenant" to:
 - (A) Delete language that would have included tenants of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority; and
 - (B) Change the income threshold to persons whose household earns at or below two hundred fifty percent of the applicable federal poverty level for Hawaii;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1324, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1324, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Belatti, Cochran, Hashem, Kahaloa).

SCRep. 247 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs/Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 1246

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Enact the Hawaii Cannabis Law to:
 - (A) Provide a legal safe harbor from state or county criminal prosecution concerning activities relating to cannabis for those who strictly comply with the provisions of the law;
 - (B) Establish the Hawaii Cannabis and Hemp Office as an independent body with the power to administratively regulate all aspects of the cannabis plant;
 - (C) Legalize the sale and possession of cannabis for personal adult use beginning January 1, 2026;
 - (D) Provide economic opportunities to disproportionately impacted areas;
 - (E) Encourage those currently engaging in illegal, unlicensed commercial cannabis activities to enter the legal market;
 - (F) Ensure that state and county law enforcement agencies work closely with the Hawaii Cannabis and Hemp Office and vigorously investigate and prosecute illegal cannabis activities that fall outside any safe harbor protection; and
 - (G) Mandate that the Hawaii Cannabis and Hemp Office make the protection of public health and safety its highest priorities;
- (2) Establish a tax on the retail sale of cannabis and a tax on the sale of medical use cannabis and require every business engaged in the sale of cannabis to obtain a cannabis tax permit;
- (3) Add new traffic offenses relating to the consumption or possession of marijuana or marijuana concentrate;
- (4) Make conforming amendments relating to the legalization of personal adult use of cannabis under the Hawaii Cannabis Law;
- (5) Decriminalize certain drug offenses related to marijuana and marijuana concentrate;
- (6) Transfer the personnel and assets of the Department of Health and assets of the Department of Agriculture relating to cannabis and hemp to the Hawaii Cannabis and Hemp Office;
- (7) Establish various positions within state entities to regulate the personal adult use of cannabis and appropriate funds; and
- (8) Make other conforming and housekeeping amendments.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Office of the Public Defender; Stonewall Caucus, Kupuna Caucus, and Education Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Invisible Hawai'i; Medical Cannabis Advocates Maui; Doctors for Drug Policy Reform; Cultivation Sector Consulting, LLC; Marijuana Policy Project; Pride at Work – Hawai'i; Rainbow Family 808; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Cannabis Industry Association; Big Island Grown; LabGrown Genetics; Green Aloha; Hilo Grow Shop, LLC; Hawai'i Alliance for Cannabis Reform; ACLU Hawai'i; Drug Policy Forum of Hawai'i; Law Enforcement Action Partnership; and numerous individuals.

Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Honolulu Police Department; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Maui; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hina Mauka; Hawaiian Islands Republican Women; Retail Merchants of Hawaii; Hawaii Family Forum; Care Waialua; United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO; Kaua'i Hemp Company; 5 Minute Pharmacy; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Pakaloha Care Clinic; Hawaii SAM; Hawai'i Christian Coalition; Coalition for a Drug-Free Hawaii; and numerous individuals.

Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of the Attorney General; Department of Human Resources Development; Department of Taxation; Department of Health; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; Kaua'i Farm Planning; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; and two individuals.

Your Committees find that over the past decade, there has been a growing movement across the nation to legalize cannabis, also known as marijuana, for recreational use. As of June 2024, twenty-four states, two territories, and the District of Columbia have legalized small amounts of cannabis for adult recreational use.

Your Committees further find that in late 2022 President Biden directed the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the United States Attorney General to review how marijuana is scheduled under federal law. Marijuana is currently classified as a Schedule I controlled substance, alongside heroin and LSD, but ahead of fentanyl and methamphetamine. On May 21, 2024, the Department of Justice proposed to transfer marijuana from Schedule I to Schedule III of the federal Controlled Substances Act. Your Committees recognize that the descheduling of marijuana at the federal level may be imminent, thus it is important for the State to have regulations in place.

Your Committees additionally find that allowing the State to regulate and tax the sale of cannabis will undercut the illegal drug trade in Hawaii and redirect revenue from drug trafficking organizations to the State where it can be used for public safety and substance abuse prevention, treatment, and education.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that a college or university may allow medical use of cannabis by a college or university faculty member or student while the faculty member or student is within faculty or student housing;
- (2) Deleting language that would have specifically included randomized lottery selection as a potential procedure by which licenses or permits are awarded;
- (3) Requiring the rules established by the Hawaii Cannabis and Hemp Office to include procedures and policies that promote and encourage full participation in the regulated cannabis industry by legacy growers;
- (4) Clarifying that the Hawaii Cannabis Law shall not be construed to prohibit the State or any of its political subdivisions from conducting drug testing or using the results of those tests for discipline of employees if the testing is done to comply with an executive order;
- (5) Clarifying that the authorization for the medical use or personal adult use of cannabis does not apply to the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, or possession of cannabis in certain prohibited locations;
- (6) Amending the residency exemption for cannabis licensees to only be applicable to existing medical cannabis dispensaries that convert the dispensary's operations into licenses under the Hawaii Cannabis Law;
- (7) Requiring the granting of craft cannabis dispensary licenses to promote legacy growers, in addition to other groups;
- (8) Amending the maximum amount of tetrahydrocannabinol that may be in tincture that is exempt from inclusion on the restricted cannabinoid product list;

- (9) Providing that the limitation on the collection of taxes shall be suspended for the period an appeal of the assessment is pending before the Taxation Board of Review or the Tax Appeal Court;
- (10) Amending where a person may store marijuana, marijuana concentrate, or receptacles containing any marijuana or marijuana concentrate in a motor vehicle or moped to the trunk, luggage compartment, or similar location;
- (11) Requiring courts to refer a person who is under twenty-one years old and sentenced for committing the offense of promoting a harmful drug in the fourth degree or promoting a detrimental drug in the third degree to a certified substance abuse counselor for assessment and treatment, if needed;
- (12) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (13) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committees note that the Department of Budget and Finance recommends that the transfer of appropriations, positions, and other assets from the Department of Agriculture and Department of Health to the Hawaii Cannabis and Hemp Office be effective no earlier than July 1, 2026, to allow the Department of Budget and Finance sufficient time to consult with the affected agencies and facilitate the transfer.

Your Committees note that the Department of Taxation has requested that the authorization of cannabis sales and tax law provisions in part III of the measure take effect no earlier than January 1, 2027.

Your Committees note that the Department of Health has requested a delayed effective date of twelve months to allow for adequate time to adopt rules and transfer personnel and assets.

Your Committees note that the Department of Agriculture suggested amendments that would exempt cannabis from the Department's inspection of imported articles. It is the intent of your Committees, should this measure pass the Legislature, that the Department of Agriculture work with the Hawaii Cannabis and Hemp Office to create rules related to biosecurity and the movement of cannabis as a plant material.

Your Committees respectfully request your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation for two auditors, one cashier, two special enforcement section investigators, two tax information technicians, and two tax law change specialists in the Department of Taxation.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs and Agriculture & Food Systems that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1246, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1246, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs: Ayes, 6; Ayes with Reservations (Perruso). Noes, 4 (Hashem, Takayama, Garcia, Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

Agriculture & Food Systems: Ayes, 5; Ayes with Reservations (Perruso). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 248 Culture & Arts on H.B. No. 925

The purpose of this bill is to effectuate its title.

H.B. No. 925 was introduced as a short-form bill, which is sometimes referred to as a "vehicle" bill primarily used to introduce a bill containing only a general idea as to the purpose of the bill without specific details in the long form.

Your Committee has amended the bill to provide the substantive contents of the bill in long form so that a public hearing may be properly held on its substantive contents.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the action to report out H.B. No. 925, as amended herein, and recommends that it be recommitted to your Committee on Culture & Arts, for the purpose of holding a public hearing thereon, in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 925, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 249 Health on H.B. No. 716

The purpose of this measure is to establish a grant program within the Department of Health, to be administered by the State Health Planning and Development Agency, to support a certified, hosted, and maintained health information technology infrastructure and the implementation of interoperable health information technologies for federally qualified health centers, rural health clinics, Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program centers, and Native Hawaiian health centers in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; State Health Planning and Development Agency; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Ho'ōla Lāhui Hawai'i; Waikiki Health; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Hana Health; Waimānalo Health Center; Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center; OCHIN; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Papa Ola Lokahi.

Your Committee finds that federally qualified health centers, rural health centers, Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program centers, Native Hawaiian health centers, and some critical access hospitals and rural providers lack the resources to adopt the interoperable health technologies available and in use by the majority of the State's hospitals, clinics, and physician practices. Your Committee further finds the coordination of health information through a certified, hosted, and maintained health information technology infrastructure will enable the State to immediately identify emerging health trends and issues, making it possible to provide timely interventions. Your Committee believes that establishing a grant program to assist qualified health centers in investing in this critical health information infrastructure will ensure all health care providers, regardless of size or location, have the tools needed to deliver care to all patients in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount between \$20,000,000 and \$25,000,000 for the grant program.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 716, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 716, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Alcos, Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 250 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 22

The purpose of this measure is to allow state and county law enforcement agencies to collaborate with United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Customs and Border Protection for immigration purposes in only limited, specific circumstances.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Kaua'i; Office of the Public Defender; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; one member of the Honolulu City Council; IATSE Local 665; The Legal Clinic; Indivisible Hawaii; Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; HCANSpeaks!; Fujiwara & Rosenbaum, LLC; COFACAN; North Hawaii Community Action Network; ACLU Hawai'i; Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights; UNITE HERE Local 5; Filipino Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Roots Reborn; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; Tagnawa; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Imua Alliance; Education Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; A.L.O.H.A. Latinos; Hawai'i Workers Center; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaiian Islands Republican Women and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that several federal courts have ruled that civil immigration detainees are unconstitutional. Your Committee further finds that federal law does not require state and local entities to collect or share information with Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Customs and Border Protection. This measure allows state and county law enforcement agencies to collaborate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Customs and Border Protection for immigration purposes in only limited, specific circumstances.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 22 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 251 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 224

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a procedure for the immediate removal of an unlawful occupant of a dwelling or premises with assistance from law enforcement;
- (2) Specify that unlawful occupants of dwellings or premises are liable for damages to the dwellings or premises; and
- (3) Including under the offense of criminal property damage in the second degree the intentional or knowing damage to a dwelling or property therein in excess of \$999 from an unlawful trespasser.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Office of the Public Defender; Honolulu Police Department; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that squatting occurs when an unlawful occupant resides in an abandoned, vacant, or unoccupied property. During this time, squatters can cause significant property damage or engage in activities that pose safety risks to property owners, real estate professionals, and the surrounding community. In some cases, squatters have even presented fraudulent rental agreements, forcing property owners and real estate professionals into a lengthy and costly eviction process. This measure establishes a procedure for the timely removal of an unlawful occupant.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the condition that there be no pending or ongoing litigation related to the dwelling or premises between the owner and any known unauthorized person, for the removal of the unauthorized person;
- (2) Specifying that the submission of a fraudulent complaint or knowing inclusion of false information in a complaint resulting in the removal of a rightful occupant is the offense of instigation of wrongful removal, which is a misdemeanor, rather than specifying that those actions are the offense of perjury;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 224, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 224, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 252 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 426

The purpose of this measure is to be a stop-gap measure enabling the provision of insurance for condominium associations that are unable to purchase adequate property insurance for their respective condominium buildings by:

- (1) Enabling the Hawaii Property Insurance Association and the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund to underwrite certain insurance risks that no standard insurer is currently willing to underwrite; and
- (2) Requiring the Insurance Commissioner to conduct a study to monitor the existing market and identify the most effective methods of stabilizing the property insurance market in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority; one member of the Maui County Council; Hawaii Insurers Council; Hawaii Bankers Association; Hawaii Credit Union League; AARP Hawai'i; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Mortgage Bankers Association of Hawaii; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies; State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the availability of condominium building master insurance policy and unit owner insurance policy options within the condominium insurance marketplace was shrinking, even before the August 2023 Maui wildfire event. For condominium building master insurance policies,

insurers have increased deductible amounts from what used to be between \$10,000 to \$25,000 per unit, per occurrence, to as much as \$250,000. Furthermore, insurance premiums for hurricane insurance policies have recently risen so high that three hundred seventy-five to three hundred ninety buildings have opted to renew their hurricane insurance policies with less than one hundred percent hurricane coverage. This measure expands the markets of last resort in the State to assist the stabilization of the property insurance market until risks can be depopulated back to the standard insurance market when market conditions improve and risks become more insurable because of building component replacement or maintenance, or mitigation equipment or protocols have been implemented for fire, wildfire, or hurricane events.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that, for purposes of the definition of "condominium" under the statutes governing the Hawaii Property Insurance Association, the real property is used primarily for residential purposes;
- (2) Specifying that the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund may impose an additional assessment on insurers acting as servicing facilities if a loss occurs from a covered event;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 426, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 426, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 253 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 70

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Provide that the defense of good faith compliance is unavailable to any condominium association whose board adopts a budget that omits the required budget summary; and
- (2) Provide that an association has the burden to prove substantial compliance.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Legislative Action Committee of the Community Associations Institute; Hawaii First Realty LLC; Hawaiiana Management Company, Ltd.; and six individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from eight individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Legislature has recently passed laws to increase transparency and accuracy with respect to condominium association replacement reserves and reserve studies. Your Committee further finds that additional effort is needed to ensure that condominium associations are complying with these new laws. Accordingly, this measure is intended to increase condominium association compliance with recent disclosure requirements associated with reserve studies and budget summaries.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that budget summaries must contain all required information without referring the reader to other portions of the budget;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 70, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 70, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 254 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 253

The purpose of this measure is to allow authorized insurers in the State to offer building and hurricane insurance for condominium buildings at a lesser rate than the building's prior surplus lines insurance policy for the same coverage.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committee finds that the availability of condominium building master insurance policy and unit owner insurance policy options within the condominium insurance marketplace was shrinking, even before the August 2023 Maui wildfire event. For condominium building master insurance policies, insurers have increased deductible amounts from what used to be between \$10,000 to \$25,000 per unit, per occurrence, to as much as \$250,000. Furthermore, insurance premiums for hurricane insurance policies have recently risen so high that three hundred seventy-five to three hundred ninety buildings have opted to renew their hurricane insurance policies with less than one hundred percent hurricane coverage. This measure will incentivize admitted insurers to provide insurance at rates, while higher than the rates they provide, lower than the rates offered by surplus lines insurers.

Your Committee notes that there are ongoing discussions between the Committee and larger insurance companies for those companies to be drawn into and enter the admitted insurance carrier market.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 253, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 253, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 255 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 239

The purpose of this measure is to amend the definition of "child abuse or neglect" by clarifying that the failure to provide certain needs to a child constitutes child abuse or neglect only if the person or entity responsible for the care of the child is financially able to provide and fails to do so or is offered financial or other reasonable means to provide and fails to accept these offers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Wellness and Resilience; Department of the Attorney General; Hawaii Coalition for Child Protective Reform; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Prevent Child Abuse HI; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; National Center for Youth Law; Ho'ouikaika Partnership; Mālama 'Ohana Working Group; and eight individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that under existing law, the failure to meet a child's basic needs qualifies as child abuse or neglect, even in cases where financial limitations are the primary barrier. Although the Department of Human Services does not currently remove children from their homes solely due to poverty, it is important to ensure that statutory definitions reflect this practice.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that a failure to provide certain care to a child is not considered neglect if the sole reason is that the caregiver lacks the financial resources to adequately provide for the child's care;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 239, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 239, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 256 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 646

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Human Services to automatically enroll, or authorize the Social Security Administration to automatically enroll, in the State's Medicaid program any individual in the State who receives federal Supplemental Security Income benefits.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that the federal Supplemental Security Income Program provides critical financial support to individuals with disabilities and older adults who have little or no income, yet Hawaii does not automatically enroll Supplemental Security Income recipients into the State's Medicaid program. Unlike several other states where Supplemental Security Income recipients are seamlessly enrolled based on Social Security Administration notification, Hawaii requires a separate Medicaid application, which creates unnecessary barriers to health care access and can deter some individuals from applying altogether. To streamline access to health care, reduce administrative burdens, and encourage greater Medicaid participation rates, this measure requires the State to automatically enroll Supplemental Security Income Program participants in Medicaid, ensuring that vulnerable residents receive the medical coverage they need without delay.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 646, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 646, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 257 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 692

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Expand the Preschool Open Doors Program's eligibility criteria; and
- (2) Repeal the requirement that Preschool Open Doors Program providers be accredited.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor; Department of Human Services; Executive Office on Early Learning; Early Learning Board; Department of Community Services of the City and County of Honolulu; Indivisible Hawai'i; American Association of University Women of Hawaii; Early Childhood Action Strategy; PATCH Hawaii; Aloha United Way; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Keiki O Ka 'Āina Family Learning Centers; Holy Nativity School; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Kamehameha Schools; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii is facing a child care crisis, with the demand for quality, affordable early learning programs far exceeding available capacity. Many families struggle to find openings for their young children, particularly for infants and toddlers, leaving parents with difficult choices between economic hardship or placing children in informal care settings that may lack developmentally appropriate learning opportunities. This measure enables more parents and caregivers to participate in the workforce by reducing financial barriers to early learning programs, which will help their children receive the early childhood development and learning experiences critical to lifelong well-being.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Preschool Open Doors Program shall continuously serve children who are in the three years prior to kindergarten entry until they enter kindergarten;
- (2) Clarifying the types of child care programs that are eligible to participate in the Preschool Open Doors Program;

- (3) Specifying that a parent or guardian of a child enrolled in the Preschool Open Doors Program may share in the costs of the Program through a copayment based on need, rather than an amount of up to one dollar;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 692, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 692, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 258 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 702

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to increase the funding for Medicaid in-home services, conditioned on the Department of Human Services obtaining the maximum federal matching funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Executive Office on Aging; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that many of Hawaii's kupuna prefer to age in place, relying on in-home services for essential support such as meal preparation, cleaning, personal care, and mobility assistance. A 2021 study found that eighty-three percent of residents aged forty-five and older consider staying in their homes as they age to be extremely or very important. However, low Medicaid reimbursement rates for in-home care services make it difficult for providers to sustain operations, limiting access to care for Medicaid clients. To address this issue, this measure increases Medicaid reimbursement rates for in-home services, ensuring fair compensation for providers and improving access to critical care for those in need.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully respects your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider that the amount of general funds needed to reach the "high" level of compensation for in-home services is \$16,530,000, which is \$6,790,000 more than in the Governor's budget request.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 702, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 702, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garcia).

SCRep. 259 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 713

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Department of Human Services to conduct a rate study for Medicaid home health services in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Healthcare Association of Hawaii and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that home health services play a critical role in the health care system by providing skilled care, such as physical therapy, wound care, and chronic condition management, to homebound individuals who require medical support but do not need hospitalization. However, federal Medicare cuts and Medicaid payment shortfalls have led to financial losses for home health agencies, resulting in a reduction in the proportion of Medicaid patients they serve. Additionally, rising labor costs and a thirty-nine percent vacancy rate for health care positions in home health settings make it difficult to recruit and retain qualified providers. Therefore, this measure provides funding for the Department of Human Services to conduct a Medicaid home health services rate study, ensuring informed decision-making to support the future sustainability of home health care in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Specifying that the appropriation shall be for only fiscal year 2025-2026, as the rate study proposed by this measure can be completed within one fiscal year;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully respects your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$250,000, as the cost of the study will be \$500,000, with fifty percent of that cost to be covered by federal funds.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 713, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 713, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 260 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 1079

The purpose of this measure is to direct and appropriate funds for the Office of Wellness and Resilience to collaborate with the Department of Human Services to, either directly or by contract, design, administer, and implement a program for trauma-informed organizational assessments and a training curriculum for the Department of Human Services Child Welfare Services Branch staff.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Wellness and Resilience; Department of Human Services; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; Hawai'i Substance Abuse Coalition; Mālama 'Ohana Working Group; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Early Childhood Action Strategy; and six individuals.

Your Committee finds that children and families involved with the Department of Human Services Child Welfare Services Branch have often experienced significant trauma, requiring a compassionate and well-informed response from staff. Your Committee further finds that the Malama Ohana Working Group, established by Act 86, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, has recommended comprehensive trauma-informed care training for all Child Welfare Services Branch staff to create a more supportive and effective child welfare system. To support these efforts, this measure directs the Office of Wellness and Resilience to collaborate with the Department of Human Services to develop and implement a trauma-informed organizational assessment and training program for Child Welfare Services Branch staff, which will provide training on vicarious trauma, secondary traumatic stress, and burnout and address staff well-being.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation amount to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully respects your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$425,000, as that amount is in the Governor's budget request.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1079, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1079, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 261 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 1081

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Transfer the Office of Wellness and Resilience to the Department of Human Resources Development on June 29, 2025;
- (2) Create a Wellness and Resilience Advisory Board to advise on wellness and resilience through trauma-informed care in the State; and
- (3) Update the functions of the Office of Wellness and Resilience.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Wellness and Resilience; Department of Human Services; Department of Health; Department of Education; Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; Executive Office on Early Learning; Mālama 'Ohana Working Group; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Office of Wellness and Resilience leads efforts to make Hawaii a trauma-informed state by promoting policies that acknowledge and address the impacts of trauma. Strengthening trauma-informed programs can improve workforce retention and recruitment while fostering healthier workplaces. Given its role in collaborating with state agencies, the Office of Wellness and Resilience is best suited to operate under the Department of Human Resources Development, which oversees key areas such as workplace well-being, training, and professional development. To support this alignment, this measure transfers the Office of Wellness and Resilience to the Department of Human Resources Development for administrative purposes, establishes a Wellness and Resilience Advisory Board to advise on wellness and resilience through trauma-informed care in the State, and updates the Office's functions.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to June 29, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that in order to ensure a smooth transition of the Office of Wellness and Resilience to the Department of Human Resources Development, the effective date of this measure should be June 29, 2025. Your Committee therefore respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider that effective date.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1081, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1081, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 262 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 1098

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Specify that intentionally or knowingly causing bodily injury to a protective services worker who is engaged in the performance of the worker's duties is a class C felony; and
- (2) Clarify that a protective services worker is a public servant for the purposes of the offense of terroristic threatening in the first degree.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Department of Human Services; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu; and Honolulu Police Department.

Your Committee finds that protective services workers play a critical role in preventing, investigating, and intervening in cases of abuse and neglect involving children and vulnerable adults. However, these workers are often targets of physical violence and death threats, creating significant safety concerns that impact their well-being and ability to perform their duties effectively. This measure seeks to deter assaults and terroristic threats against protective services workers, ensuring a safer work environment and maintaining the integrity of protective services for Hawaii's most vulnerable populations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1098, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1098, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 263 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 1099

The purpose of this measure is to make an emergency appropriation for fiscal year 2024-2025 to the Department of Human Services to support the necessary modifications to the ongoing development of a new eligibility system.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services; Department of Budget and Finance; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; and Catholic Charities Hawai'i.

Your Committee finds that the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program is essential for providing food assistance to low-income households in Hawaii. However, the State recently incurred a penalty of \$10,934,327 from the United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service due to a payment error rate exceeding the national average for two consecutive federal fiscal years. The payment error was the result of several contributing factors that strained staff and operations, including impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, increased applications, larger caseloads, hiring freezes, and loss of personnel due to positions being defunded, retirements, and resignations. To address this issue, the State has been offered the option to reinvest fifty percent of the penalty amount into program improvements that would reduce the payment error rate, potentially waiving the remaining penalty if the State successfully lowers and maintains its error rate below the national average.

Therefore, to prevent delays and ensure compliance with the United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service reinvestment plan, this measure provides an emergency appropriation for fiscal year 2024-2025, which will go toward the Department's ongoing development of its new Benefits Eligibility Solution system, that will not only help Hawaii avoid paying the full penalty but also improve the accuracy of federal food assistance benefits, reducing the burden on recipients and minimizing the risk of future financial penalties. Your Committee notes that these funds need to be available during this fiscal year to address federal requirements.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1099, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1099, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 264 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 1382

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Department of Human Services to contract with a non-profit specializing in domestic violence to provide training and staff to be housed on-site in Child Welfare Services Branch offices to support all aspects of screening for and addressing domestic violence within a case.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services; Mālama 'Ohana Working Group; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Malama Ohana Working Group, established by Act 86, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, identified the need to strengthen the Child Welfare Services Branch's ability to manage cases involving domestic violence. In 2024, the Child Welfare Services Branch received five hundred one reports of children experiencing domestic violence, with one hundred eight confirmed victims. To improve response efforts, this measure provides resources to enhance the Child Welfare Services Branch's ability to assess risk, support families, and ensure effective intervention.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1382, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1382, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 265 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 1383

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a five-year Family Resilience Pilot Program within the Office of Wellness and Resilience to provide trauma-informed peer support, financial assistance and resource supports, and trauma-informed parenting intervention services for local families.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Wellness and Resilience; Department of Human Services; Hawaii Coalition for Child Protective Reform; Mālama 'Ohana Working Group; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; Early Childhood Action Strategy; National Center for Youth Law; Hale Kipa; and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii lacks sufficient resources to prevent families from entering the child welfare system, particularly in primary prevention and universal support services. Many at-risk families are unaware of available assistance, and establishing programs like family resource centers and accessible pathways to basic needs can help divert them from child welfare involvement. Therefore, this measure establishes and funds a five-year Family Resilience Pilot Program within the Office of Wellness and Resilience to support at-risk families and reduce child welfare system involvement.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Office of Wellness and Resilience to establish data and referral system tracking needs and protocols and an implementation and evaluation plan that includes certain goals by December 31, 2025;
- (2) Changing the appropriation amount to an unspecified amount;

- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully respects your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,468,500.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1383, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1383, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 266 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 1477

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify that the monthly needs allowance afforded to individuals living in certain long-term care facilities is not intended to replace or affect funds received as a state supplemental payment for domiciliary care and shall be supplemental to any funds provided to a recipient as a state supplemental payment for domiciliary care; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the Department of Human Services' Community-Based Residential Support Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the monthly needs allowance for individuals in certain long-term care facilities and the state supplemental payment to specified care providers were recently increased to provide greater financial support. However, due to the way the Social Security Administration administers these payments, the \$25 increase in the needs allowance is being deducted from the \$132 state supplemental payment increase, effectively negating part of the intended financial relief, and which was not the intent of the Legislature. To correct this issue, this measure clarifies that the needs allowance is intended to be supplemental and does not affect the state supplemental payment for domiciliary care.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the specific statutory reference to the starting date for the increase in needs allowance and state supplemental payment;
- (2) Deleting as unnecessary the appropriation for the Department of Human Services' Community-Based Residential Support Program;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully respects your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an effective date of October 1, 2025, to give the Social Security Administration adequate time to implement the increase in needs allowance and state supplemental payment proposed by this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1477, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1477, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garcia).

SCRep. 267 Labor on H.B. No. 1026

The purpose of this measure is to make emergency appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Bargaining Units (2), (3), (4), (8), (9), (13), and (14) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal year 2024-2025.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; University of Hawai'i System; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO; and one individual.

Your Committee amended this measure by:

- (1) Including Bargaining Units (1) and (10); and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1026, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1026, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 268 Labor on H.B. No. 1028

The purpose of this measure is to make appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Bargaining Unit (2) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; University of Hawai'i System; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1028, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1028, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 269 Labor on H.B. No. 1029

The purpose of this measure is to make appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Bargaining Unit (3) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; University of Hawai'i System; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1029, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1029, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 270 Labor on H.B. No. 1030

The purpose of this measure is to make appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Bargaining Unit (4) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; University of Hawai'i System; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1030, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1030, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 271 Labor on H.B. No. 1034

The purpose of this measure is to make appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Bargaining Unit (8) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; University of Hawai'i System; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1034, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1034, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 272 Labor on H.B. No. 1035

The purpose of this measure is to make appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Bargaining Unit (9) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; University of Hawai'i System; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1035, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1035, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 273 Labor on H.B. No. 1036

The purpose of this measure is to make appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Bargaining Unit (10) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; University of Hawai'i System; and United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1036, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1036, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 274 Labor on H.B. No. 1037

The purpose of this measure is to make appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Bargaining Unit (11) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1037, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1037, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 275 Labor on H.B. No. 1038

The purpose of this measure is to make appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Bargaining Unit (13) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; and one individual.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1038, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1038, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 276 Labor on H.B. No. 1039

The purpose of this measure is to make appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Bargaining Unit (14) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1039, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1039, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 277 Tourism on H.B. No. 972

The purpose of this measure is to authorize condominium associations and planned community associations located in a zoning district that allows for transient vacation rentals to assess an impact fee on owners or members, respectively, who use their units as transient vacation rentals.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association; UNITE HERE Local 5; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii and Hawai'i Association of REALTORS.

Your Committee finds that it is equitable for condominium associations and planned community associations to be able to assess impact fees on owners or members, respectively, who use their units as transient vacation rentals because of the additional costs and impacts on other units in the association.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the board of directors of a condominium association or planned community association located in a zoning district that allows for transient vacation rentals to provide at least thirty days' notice to owners or members, respectively, who use their units as transient vacation rentals, before the association assesses the impact fee;
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider setting a cap on the amount of impact fees that can be assessed and collected.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Tourism that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 972, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 972, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Holt).

SCRep. 278 Legislative Management on H.B. No. 792

The purpose of this measure is to clarify the Office of the Legislative Analyst.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Office of the Legislative Analyst, established by Act 347, Session Laws of Hawaii 1990, was created to assist the Legislature with fiscal, budgetary, and tax analyses and to play a critical role in providing timely and informed policy research to members of the House and Senate. However, the Office of the Legislative Analyst has not been staffed since its creation and has instead resulting in the Legislature's reliance on session staff which can lead to gaps in institutional knowledge and delays in the research process. To address this, this measure clarifies the role of the Office of the Legislative Analyst, ensuring continuity in fiscal and budgetary research and enhancing the Legislature's ability to make well-informed policy decisions.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Legislative Management that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 792, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 792, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 279 Legislative Management on H.B. No. 1425

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a temporary working group to study the feasibility of transitioning the Hawaii State Legislature's Regular Session from one that meets for three and a half months, from mid-January to early May, to one that meets on a year-round basis.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Green Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Legislative Reference Bureau.

Your Committee finds that the existing limitation in the Hawaii State Constitution restricts the Legislature from being in Regular Session for more than sixty days each year. That span of time generally lasts about three and a half months. The constitutional limitation of meeting for only sixty days each year in combination with the practical aspect of working within tight legislative filing deadlines often leads to rushed decision-making and limited community engagement. Transitioning to a year-round legislature could foster a more deliberate and inclusive legislative process, allowing for better-crafted legislation, more robust community involvement, and quicker responses to emergencies like natural disasters. However, this shift would require careful consideration of the financial and logistical implications, which have not yet been fully explored. Therefore, this measure establishes a temporary working group to study the feasibility of transitioning the Hawaii State Legislature to a year-round schedule, ensuring a thoughtful and well-balanced approach to this potential change.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Legislative Management that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1425, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1425, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 280 Education on H.B. No. 249

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Executive Office on Early Learning to contract with third-party providers of family-child interaction learning programs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Early Learning Board; Executive Office on Early Learning; PATCH People Attentive to Children; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Commit to Keiki; Keiki O Ka 'Āina Family-Child Interaction Learning Programs; Partners in Development Foundation; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that family-child interaction learning programs provide children from birth to age five with engaging, literacy-rich early learning environments that foster social and emotional development and support school readiness. Family-child interaction learning programs are uniquely positioned to improve early detection of developmental delays, expand access to infant and early childhood mental health services, and connect families with a wide variety of social services. This measure will provide families with additional options for educating their children by expanding the availability of family-child interaction learning programs in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 249, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 249, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 281 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 395

The purpose of this measure is to increase compensation for a juror or prospective juror from \$30 to \$50 for each day of attendance at court.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Office of the Public Defender; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; and Hawaii State Bar Association.

Your Committee finds that juror compensation has not been increased since 1986. Your Committee recognizes the sacrifices made by jurors and prospective jurors in the performance of their civic duty and believes that an increase in compensation is timely.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$684,385.

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. 395, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 395, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 282 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1351

The purpose of this measure is to increase the limit of the State's liability for monies borrowed by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands or loans made to lessees that are guaranteed by the Department from \$100,000,000 to \$500,000,000.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that, despite the historic \$600,000,000 investment by the State into Hawaiian home lands in 2022, various factors have increased the cost of housing, including higher mortgage interest rates, increasing construction costs, and inflation. As a result, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands has faced rising expenses in the construction of housing. This measure raises the liability cap, which will allow the Department to secure, pledge, or guarantee loan repayments up to \$500,000,000.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that the Department of Budget and Finance, in its written testimony, raised concerns that the increase in the liability limit will affect the amount of general obligation bonds the State may issue within the debt limit. As such, the Department stated that the State will need to appropriate general funds to cover the liability if the guarantee is called. Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to give due consideration to the concerns raised by the Department of Budget and Finance.

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. 1351, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1351, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Todd).

SCRep. 283 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 410

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the 2025-2027 fiscal biennium for certain operating expenses of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce; Ko'olauloa Hawaiian Civic Club; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Office of Hawaiian Affairs is a semi-autonomous state agency established by the Hawaii State Constitution whose mandate is to better the conditions of Native Hawaiians. Your Committee further finds that the appropriations made by this measure will help the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to fulfill this constitutional mandate.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 410, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 410, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Hashem, Todd).

SCRep. 284 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1239

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to retain independent legal counsel as needed;
- (2) Authorize the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to use the services of the Attorney General as needed; and
- (3) Provide that funds owed to independent legal counsel shall be paid by the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that there are circumstances where the interests of the State and Department of Hawaiian Home Lands may be adversarial and that it is vital and necessary for the Hawaiian Homes Commission to carry out its fiduciary duties to be able to retain independent counsel. This measure would further provide the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands with the assurance that its counsel is providing legal advice in the sole interest of the Department.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the concerns raised by the Department of the Attorney General in its written testimony submitted to your Committee, stating that an appropriation is necessary if the intent is to pay for attorneys from sources other than the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' trust funds.

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. 1239, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1239, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Todd).

SCRep. 285 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 871

The purpose of this measure is to clarify that Act 130, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, which amended the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act to increase the loan limit for direct loans provided by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, takes effect on either the date of the Secretary of the Interior's notification letter that Act 130 does not require congressional approval, or on the date that the United States Congress approval becomes law.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that Act 130, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, increases the loan limit for direct loans provided by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to seventy-five percent of the maximum single residence loan amount allowed in Hawaii by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's Federal Housing Administration, rather than the fifty percent as outlined in the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920. However, Act 130 contained an error with respect to recognizing the appropriate approval procedure for its enactment. This measure corrects Act 130 to accurately reflect the necessary approval process for the enactment of laws that amend the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 871, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 871, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Todd).

SCRep. 286 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 400

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the 2025-2027 fiscal biennium for certain operating expenses of the Judiciary.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Volunteer Legal Services Hawai'i; Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i; The Legal Clinic; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the appropriations made by this measure will assist the Judiciary in its efforts to fulfill its constitutional, statutory, and public service duties.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider authorizing \$7,000,000 in lump sum general obligation bond funds for capital improvement projects for Judiciary facilities to account for the additional cost of \$2,000,000 to relocate the Children's Justice Center.

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. 400 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Hashem, Todd).

SCRep. 287 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 396

The purpose of this measure is to increase the rate of compensation and maximum allowable amounts per case for court-appointed counsel in criminal proceedings.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Office of the Public Defender; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Kaua'i; Hawaii State Bar Association; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that most indigent criminal defendants have a right to representation by competent counsel appointed by the court. Usually, these defendants are represented by the Office of the Public Defender. However, in the event of a conflict, the defendant has a right to the appointment of private defense counsel.

Your Committee further finds that the existing rate of pay has not been adjusted in almost twenty years. This measure will adjust the rate of compensation to attract competent individuals to serve as appointed counsel for these defendants.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$2,890,000.

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. 396, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 396, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 288 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 397

The purpose of this measure is to establish the amount of compensation for private-sector examiners who evaluate a criminal defendant's penal responsibility or fitness to proceed in a legal case.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Office of the Public Defender; Department of Health; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; Hawaii State Bar Association; and Hawai'i Psychological Association.

Your Committee finds that fees paid to private-sector examiners who evaluate a criminal defendant's penal responsibility or fitness to proceed has not been increased since approximately 2008. Due to the low rate of pay, several former certified examiners no longer accept appointments from the First Circuit Court. This measure will attract more private-sector examiners - reducing delays that cause defendants to spend more time in custody and enabling the courts to meet their constitutional and statutory obligations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$975,000.

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. 397, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 397, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 289 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 398

The purpose of this measure is to increase the rate of compensation and maximum allowable amounts per case for court-appointed counsel and guardians ad litem in family court proceedings.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Office of the Public Defender; Department of Human Services; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; Hawaii State Bar Association; Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that court-appointed guardians ad litem perform a critical role in a wide range of family court cases, including representing the best interest of children in child protective cases or child custody matters and representing persons in involuntary hospitalization and assisted community treatment proceedings. The subjects of these proceedings are the most vulnerable members of the community who are frequently unable to advocate for themselves or meaningfully participate in court proceedings.

Your Committee further finds that court-appointed attorneys play a similar role in family court cases. These court-appointed attorneys provide constitutionally mandated representation to individuals whose parental rights are at stake in child protective cases and to minors who have been charged with violations of the law.

The work court-appointed guardians ad litem and counsel perform can be quite complex and is extremely important. It requires expertise and experience. This measure will help attract and retain highly competent individuals to serve as court-appointed guardians ad litem and counsel in family court cases.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 398, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 398, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 290 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 399

The purpose of this measure is to establish an additional district court judgeship in the First Circuit.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Office of the Public Defender; Hawaii State Bar Association; Collection Law Section of the Hawaii State Bar Association; and Hawaii Financial Services Association.

Your Committee finds that the population and legal issues facing the City and County of Honolulu have significantly increased since the last District Court judge was authorized over forty years ago. Authorizing an additional District Court judge will allow the District Court to better manage court dockets, be more responsive to the needs of the community, increase capacity in the rural courts, and develop or expand specialized court calendars.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 399, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 399, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 291 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 401

The purpose of this measure is to establish an additional district court judgeship in the Third Circuit.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Office of the Public Defender; Hawaii State Bar Association; Collection Law Section of the Hawaii State Bar Association; Hawaii Financial Services Association; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that there is a critical and urgent need to address the severe strain on the Kona District Court, where a single judge handles nearly 16,000 individual cases annually. Adding an additional district court judge will reduce the individual caseloads and allow the court to operate more efficiently, dispose of cases more promptly, and provide litigants and victims with timely and equitable justice.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 401, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 401, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 292 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 114

The purpose of this measure is to establish positions and appropriate funds for Adult Services Probation of the First Circuit Court.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary.

Your Committee finds that the additional positions established in this measure will help the Adult Client Services Branch of the First Circuit Court better align with the recommended national best practice standards for community supervision with respect to optimal caseload distribution.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriations and the number of staff positions to unspecified amounts; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of:

- (1) \$781,248 to establish permanent positions in Adult Client Services Branch of the First Circuit Court, including:
 - (A) \$73,836 each for eight full-time equivalent (8.0 FTE) probation officer positions;
 - (B) \$50,880 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) social worker assistant position;
 - (C) \$48,936 each for two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) clerk positions; and
 - (D) \$41,808 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) secretary position; and
- (2) \$140,000 for operating expenses for the Adult Client Services Branch of the First Circuit Court.

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. 114, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 114, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 293 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 146

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Judiciary to support its 'Ōlelo Hawai'i Initiatives.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; one member of the Kaua'i Council; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies.

Your Committee finds that the 'Ōlelo Hawai'i program provides court interpretation, website translation, archival legal language research, and other services and resources for the public.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$300,000.

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. 146, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 146, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 294 Higher Education on H.B. No. 309

The purpose of this measure is to establish a working group within the University of Hawai'i Sea Grant Program to develop an inventory of state-owned fishponds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Agriculture; University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; Malama Kaua'i; Hawai'i Farmers Union

United; Historic Hawai'i Foundation; Hawai'i Ocean Legislative Task Force; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Pacific Whale Foundation; Mālama Pa'akea o Waimalau; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that the University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program (Hawai'i Sea Grant) has supported the restoration of loko i'a and the perpetuation of loko i'a practice for decades as part of its mission to improve understanding and stewardship of coastal and marine resources. Your Committee further finds that the Hawai'i Sea Grant's expertise and partnerships with the Department of Land and Natural Resources and other partners involved in the restoration, preservation, and perpetuation of Hawaiian fishponds will be of great value in developing an inventory of state-owned fishponds.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 309, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 295 Higher Education on H.B. No. 3

The purpose of this measure is to extend the deadline for the University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program to submit the North Shore Beach Management Plan to the Governor and Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program; and Climate Resilience Collaborative.

Your Committee finds that Act 226, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, required the University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program to submit a beach management plan for Oahu's North Shore by December 1, 2025. Your Committee recognizes that completion of the beach management plan by the existing deadline will be challenging and believes that extending this deadline to December 1, 2026, will provide the University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program sufficient time for community engagement and outreach as part of the plan.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 3, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 296 Culture & Arts on H.B. No. 194

The purpose of this measure is to designate a certain day each year as Maritime Day to preserve the State's maritime history and celebrate maritime workers and port operations.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that it is important to preserve the State's maritime history and celebrate the efforts in port operations by maritime workers. Your Committee also finds that maritime operations and the efforts of maritime workers at state ports enable the transportation of a majority of basic necessities for the State and its residents into and throughout the State. Your Committee believes this measure preserves the State's rich maritime history and recognizes the hard work that goes into port operations by annually observing Maritime Day.

Your Committee amended this measure by:

- (1) Designating May 22 of every year to be Maritime Day;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 194, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 194, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 297 Culture & Arts on H.B. No. 458

The purpose of this measure is to designate April 27 of every year as Brother Joseph Dutton Day.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services; Joseph Dutton Guild; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that Brother Joseph Dutton was an influential figure in helping the residents of Kalaupapa during the leprosy epidemic. Your Committee finds that Kalaupapa was established as a settlement to isolate people afflicted with leprosy. Upon learning of the ongoing efforts of Father Damien to help the patients of Kalaupapa, Brother Joseph Dutton traveled to the settlement to assist with the treatment and overall well-being of afflicted patients, and continued with his efforts for over 40 years. Your Committee further finds that in 1929, the Hawaii Territorial House of Representatives acknowledged the work of Brother Joseph Dutton and passed House Resolution No. 7 to thank him for his service for the people on Molokai. Your Committee believes that this measure appropriately commemorates his work in Kalupapa by designating April 27 of every year as Brother Joseph Dutton Day.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 458, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 458, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 298 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 1391

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Hawaii-Ireland Trade Commission within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and APEC Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that establishing a Hawaii-Ireland Trade Commission could help promote trade relations, establish business and academic exchanges, and initiate joint action on policy issues of mutual interest to Hawaii and Ireland. This measure establishes the Hawaii-Ireland Trade Commission within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1391, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1391, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Templo).

SCRep. 299 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 1384

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Hawaii Artificial Intelligence Advisory Council.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Enterprise Technology Services 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 the rapid transition to artificial intelligence necessitates adequate policies and practices to ensure that the State captures the full economic benefits of this technology while promoting responsible use. This measure addresses this need by establishing the Hawaii Artificial Intelligence Advisory Council.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding provisions to ensure that the Hawaii Artificial Intelligence Advisory Council addresses responsible use and accountability for artificial intelligence vendors;
- (2) Removing the requirement that the Advisory Council's interim report include an analysis of certain aspects of artificial intelligence systems;
- (3) Removing the requirement that the Advisory Council's final report include an evaluation of potential beneficial use cases and recommendations for supporting government employees in the transition to artificial intelligence;
- (4) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (5) Changing the number of positions established to an unspecified number;
- (6) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$500,000 and positions counts of one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent management analyst position and one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent clerical or secretarial position.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1384, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1384, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Templo).

SCRep. 300 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 455

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Hawaii Start-Up Business Loan Program to encourage entrepreneurship, economic diversification, and resilience.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Holomua Collaborative; Mana Up; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Title Guaranty Hawaii; HPM Building Supply; aio; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that new businesses that have existed for under five years create the most new jobs, on net, in the United States and help foster economic growth. This measure will benefit the local economy and help create new jobs by establishing a Hawaii Start-Up Business Loan Program to encourage entrepreneurship, economic diversification, and resilience.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Incorporating the Hawaii Start-Up Business Loan Program into the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism's existing Community-Based Economic Development Program;
- (2) Changing the appropriations to unspecified amounts;
- (3) Adding an appropriation for an unspecified amount for a business loan officer position;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider appropriation amounts of:

- (1) \$500,000 to be deposited into and appropriated out of the Hawaii Start-Up Business Loan Program Special Fund; and
- (2) \$95,000 to fund one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) business loan officer position.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 455, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 455, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 301 Water & Land on H.B. No. 506

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Oahu branch of the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea; Hawai'i Ocean Legislative Task Force; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; and seven individuals. 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 one of the most effective ways to help the State's coral reefs withstand and recover from present and future threats, such as warmer ocean temperatures, pollution, and ocean acidification, is to ensure healthy populations of herbivorous fishes. Your Committee further finds that although the Board of Land and Natural Resources adopted statewide herbivore fishing rules in December 2023, enforcement of these rules is particularly difficult on the island of Oahu due to a variety of factors, including greater fishing intensity, diversion of conservation and resources enforcement officers, and nighttime poaching activities. Your Committee believes that providing funding for additional resources will allow the Oahu branch of the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement to better protect the State's herbivorous fish populations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation and allocations to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$4,974,040 to be allocated as follows:

- (1) \$800,000 for two maritime enforcement patrol vessels, complete with audible/visual emergency equipment;
- (2) \$50,000 for two patrol watercrafts, complete with audible/visual emergency equipment;
- (3) \$50,000 for shipment costs for the items in paragraphs (1) and (2);
- (4) \$3,040,000 for thirty-two police marked patrol vehicles, complete with audible/visual emergency equipment;
- (5) \$206,000 for two towing vehicles for patrol vessels, complete with audible/visual emergency equipment;
- (6) \$10,000 for extended warranties for the two vehicles in paragraph (5);
- (7) \$14,000 for one floating drive-on dock;
- (8) \$1,800 for six personal flotation devices;
- (9) \$36,000 for six sets of SCUBA gear, including full equipment and training and certifications;
- (10) \$224,000 for thirty-two portable radios;
- (11) \$5,000 for one base station/repeater;
- (12) \$128,000 for thirty-two night-vision devices;
- (13) \$128,000 for thirty-two drones;
- (14) \$5,600 for thirty-two remote pilot certificates for the drones in paragraph (13);
- (15) \$215,640 per year for six mobile surveillance trailers;
- (16) \$48,000 for six quick-deploy license plate recognition camera systems; and
- (17) \$12,000 for installation costs for the items in paragraph (16).

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 506, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 506, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 302 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1220

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to support efforts of the Division of Aquatic Resources of the Department of Land and Natural Resources in the removal of majano anemone from Kaneohe Bay.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Invasive Species Council; Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that analysis of survey work at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in 2023 found that *Anemonia majano*, or the majano anemone, is an invasive species that was detected in Kaneohe Bay. Majano anemone are known for their rapid growth and spread throughout various substrates, aggressive competition for space, and ability to smother native species. Your Committee further finds that while the majano anemone are currently contained in Kaneohe Bay, if left unchecked they could rapidly spread and significantly degrade reef health and fish habitats, harm marine biodiversity, and disrupt vital coastal ecosystems throughout the State. This measure is intended to prevent the spread of harmful invasive species by appropriating funds to support efforts to remove majano anemone from Kaneohe Bay.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$200,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1220, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1220, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 303 Water & Land on H.B. No. 502

The purpose of this measure is to temporarily allow each county to petition for the redistricting of land from an agricultural district to a rural district through the Land Use Commission's declaratory ruling process.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Agriculture; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; and Land Use Commission.

Your Committee finds that there are small lot subdivisions within agricultural districts in each county that may be more appropriately placed within rural districts. Your Committee further finds that these lots were originally created for speculative purposes prior to 1961 and currently inhibit the ability of the counties to ensure appropriate use of lands within agricultural districts. Your Committee believes that providing the counties with a time-limited opportunity to petition the Land Use Commission to issue a declaratory ruling to reclassify these lands will better enable the State and counties to separate non-farm residential uses from bona fide farming to reduce pressure on the State's limited productive agricultural lands.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Excluding important agricultural lands from the redistricting process;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider whether a requirement should be added to consider the agricultural viability, which may be measured by soil productivity rating, of the agricultural lands that could be redistricted using the process proposed by this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 502, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 502, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 304 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1137

The purpose of this measure is to amend the definition of "beach restoration" to expand the types of activities the State recognizes as restorative and beneficial to beach lands in response to sea level rise and beach loss.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program and Climate Resilience Collaborative; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the existing definition of "beach restoration" is limited to the placement of sand on eroded beaches and that other activities, such as sand management, native vegetation management, and removal of abandoned materials from public beaches are restorative and beneficial to beach restoration. This measure will provide the Department of Land and Natural Resources with flexibility to proactively manage and care for beach resources.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1137, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1137, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 305 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1348

The purpose of this measure is to establish a lottery system for the leasing of cabins on public lands for recreation-residence use.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Kōke'e Leaseholders Association; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that there are approximately one hundred recreational-residential, or cabin, leases in Kokee-Waimea Canyon State Parks on Kauai. These unique cabins allow occasional use and are intended to allow families to gather and commune with nature, escape the summer heat, and keep forest roads and amenities open and accessible. However, due to various factors, there is significant inequity in annual rents charged for these cabins, with rents ranging from approximately \$5,000 to \$41,000, and rents for some cabins are unaffordable for many local families. This measure seeks to reward lessees who have stewarded these cabin resources well by allowing existing lessees to directly negotiate for lease extensions if they are in good standing, create more equitable and affordable rents by setting rents at appraised value, and creating a fairer process for acquiring available cabins by offering them through public lottery rather than auction.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1348, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1348, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 306 Water & Land on H.B. No. 316

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the continuation of the Green Jobs Youth Corps Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Hawai'i State Energy Office; Malama Pūpūkea-Waimea; Kupu; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Re-use Hawaii; 350Hawaii.org; Coalition Earth; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Holomua Collaborative; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i and Palmyra; and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that youth and young adults face higher unemployment rates, which can negatively impact their long-term well-being. To address this, the State has assisted in providing greater work opportunities to youth and young adults in sustainability-related fields through the Green Jobs Youth Corps Program. This measure continues and supports the Program, which has proven successful in providing conservation and sustainability-related work experiences for young adults.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$6,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 316, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 316, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 307 Water & Land on H.B. No. 533

The purpose of this measure is to amend the definition of "historic property" under the State's Historic Preservation Program to include only property that predates Statehood Day and, with respect to buildings and structures, is registered on the Hawaii Register of Historic Places.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; NAIOP Hawaii; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Historic Hawai'i Foundation; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Climate Protectors of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that this measure improves the determination of which buildings and structures are considered historic property under the State's Historic Preservation Program by considering more than merely the age of the structure, object, or site.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the definition of "historic property" to mean properties included, or eligible for inclusion, on the National Register of Historic Places or Hawai'i Register of Historic Places, rather than properties that predate Statehood Day;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 533, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 533, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto, Poepoe, Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 308 Higher Education on H.B. No. 1169

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal the existing Conference Center Revolving Fund, University of Hawaii at Hilo; and the Community College Conference Center Revolving Fund;
- (2) Establish a new University of Hawaii Conference Center Revolving Fund to facilitate the administration of the revolving fund for conference center programs among various campuses and operating units of the University of Hawaii System;
- (3) Transfer all appropriations and encumbrances of the Conference Center Revolving Fund, University of Hawaii at Hilo; and the Community College Conference Center Revolving Fund to the University of Hawaii Conference Center Revolving Fund; and
- (4) Appropriate funds out of the University of Hawaii Conference Center Revolving Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that establishing a single conference center revolving fund within the University of Hawaii System would standardize implementation of conference center programs across the various campuses of the University of Hawaii System, thereby increasing access to conference center usage on University of Hawaii campuses.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that all unencumbered funds in the Conference Center Revolving Fund, University of Hawaii at Hilo; and the Community College Conference Center Revolving Fund shall lapse to the University of Hawaii Conference Center Revolving Fund on the effective date of this measure;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1169, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1169, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 309 Higher Education on H.B. No. 443

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for one retention coordinator position, one internship coordinator position, and student enrollment management initiatives at the University of Hawaii at Hilo.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i at Hilo and Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce.

Your Committee finds that the University of Hawaii at Hilo is experiencing a declining enrollment rate. University of Hawaii at Hilo officials have cited the school's limited brand exposure outside of Hawaii, difficulty retaining students from the mainland, and an increase in online educational opportunities as factors contributing to the school's enrollment issues. Your Committee further finds that funding for positions and initiatives directly related to addressing student enrollment are vital to ensuring that the school has the necessary staff and resources to retain students and increase enrollment.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriations to unspecified amounts; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider appropriating \$507,500 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$790,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for the University of Hawaii at Hilo, as follows:

- (1) \$37,500 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$75,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for a retention coordinator;
- (2) \$37,500 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$75,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for an internship coordinator; and
- (3) \$432,500 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$640,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for student enrollment management initiatives.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 443, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 443, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 310 Higher Education on H.B. No. 718

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) for:

- (1) Faculty positions in the fields of cardiovascular biology, tropical medicine, and quantitative health biostatistics; and
- (2) An environmental health and safety officer staff position.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine; University of Hawaii Professional Assembly; and Hawai'i Primary Care Association.

Your Committee finds that additional faculty positions in cardiovascular biology, tropical medicine, and quantitative health biostatistics will enable JABSOM to better understand potential health disparities across a wide spectrum of conditions and diseases commonly experienced by many in the State who are already at higher risk for disease or who suffer disproportionately.

Your Committee further finds that an environmental health and safety officer is needed at JABSOM's health and wellness medical school buildings to conduct the required testing of injection wells and reporting duties at the buildings once JABSOM's contract with the City and County of Honolulu Board of Water Supply expires on September 15, 2025.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the amount appropriated and number of positions to be funded to unspecified amounts; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$763,000 for JABSOM to fund:

- (1) Three full-time equivalent (3.0 FTE) faculty positions: one each in the fields of cardiovascular biology, tropical medicine, and quantitative health biostatistics; and
- (2) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) environmental health and safety officer staff position.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 718, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 718, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 311 Water & Land on H.B. No. 878

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Extend the landfill buffer zone from one-half mile to one mile; and
- (2) Require the landfill buffer zone to apply to lands in the state conservation district and lands designated as national conservation areas.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one member of the Honolulu City Council; Hawai'i Farmers Union; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu; Department of Public Works of the County of Kaua'i; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Health; Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; and Iron Workers Stabilization Fund, Local 625.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's unique ecosystems and cultural sites require stronger protections from the potential environmental and health hazards associated with landfills. Expanding the landfill buffer zone to one mile and including certain conservation areas within its scope will help safeguard native species, critical habitats, and culturally significant lands.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 878, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 878, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Morikawa, Woodson). Noes, 3 (Iwamoto, Shimizu, Souza). Excused, none.

SCRep. 312 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 92

The purpose of this bill is to effectuate its title.

H.B. No. 92 was introduced as a short-form bill, which is sometimes referred to as a "vehicle" bill primarily used to introduce a bill containing only a general idea as to the purpose of the bill without specific details in the long form.

Your Committee has amended the bill to provide the substantive contents of the bill in long form so that a public hearing may be properly held on its substantive contents.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the action to report out H.B. No. 92, as amended herein, and recommends that it be recommitted to your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems, for the purpose of holding a public hearing thereon, in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 92, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 313 Labor on H.B. No. 1027

The purpose of this measure is to make appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Bargaining Unit (1) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; University of Hawaii System; and United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1027, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1027, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 314 Labor on H.B. No. 1031

The purpose of this measure is to make appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Bargaining Unit (5) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and Hawai'i State Teachers Association.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1031, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1031, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 315 Labor on H.B. No. 1032

The purpose of this measure is to make appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Bargaining Unit (6) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1032, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1032, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 316 Labor on H.B. No. 1033

The purpose of this measure is to make appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Bargaining Unit (7) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from The Department of Budget and Finance; University of Hawai'i System; and University of Hawaii Professional Assembly.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1033, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1033, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 317 Labor on H.B. No. 1042

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Extend the deadline for payment to the Employees' Retirement System for departments or agencies of the State or counties that fail to comply with reporting requirements by one year after the review period; and
- (2) Change the timeframe for which the Employees' Retirement System must report regarding any department or agency's failure to submit required information to the Employees' Retirement System from the current fiscal year to the previous fiscal year.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Board of Trustees of the Employees' Retirement System.

Your Committee finds it important to provide the Employees' Retirement System more time to effectively collect, review, and analyze the data reported to it and for employers to prepare pre-payment to the Employees' Retirement System, to ensure that requirements are adequately met. Your Committee believes this measure can alleviate undue burdens on the overall process of employer reporting, while ensuring that requirements and deadlines are adequately met.

Your Committee amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1042, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1042, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 318 Labor on H.B. No. 1040

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Effective January 1, 2026, increase the employer base composite monthly contribution to the Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust-Fund by 5.2 percent of the 2025 employer base composite monthly contribution; and
- (2) Effective January 1, 2027, require the calculation of the employer base composite monthly contribution to be based on the change in Medicare Part B premiums from 2025-2026 and at two-year increments thereafter.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund Board of Trustees.

Your Committee finds that the employer's monthly base composite contribution to the Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund, as it relates to Medicare Part B premiums, are published shortly after open enrollment for retired members of the Employees' Retirement System ends, resulting in retirees committing to healthcare plans for the upcoming year without knowing what the employer's contributions will be. Your Committee believes that this measure will give retirees adequate time to make informed decisions regarding their healthcare benefits.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1040, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1040, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 319 Labor on H.B. No. 813

The purpose of this measure is to change the minimum number of years of credited service for qualified Tier 2 employees' retirement status from 10 years to 5 years, to be eligible for vested service retirement allowances.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Governor; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Employees' Retirement System.

Your Committee finds that the State's public sector continues to struggle with widespread employment vacancies which have negative impacts on providing essential services to the public. Your Committee also finds that reducing the minimum requirement of credited service for Tier 2 members from 10 years to 5 years to be eligible for vested benefits can attract candidates to apply for state and county jobs, while incentivizing current government employees to continue working in the public sector. Your Committee believes that this measure supports the recruitment and retention of qualified employees to fill the vacancies in the public sector.

Your Committee amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 813, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 813, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 320 Labor on H.B. No. 1041

The purpose of this measure to amend the Employees' Retirement System's requirements for beginning dates and automatic disbursements to reflect the most recent requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and preserve the Employees' Retirement System's federal tax qualification.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Board of Trustees of the Employees' Retirement System.

Your Committee finds that the Employees' Retirement System undergoes burdensome and costly steps to maintain its beneficial federal tax status while distributing the required minimum distributions to its members. Your Committee also finds that the automatic distribution requirement for non-vested hybrid members necessitates third-party retirement accounts which must be separately defined as contributions plans, to avoid tax implications on contributions. Your Committee believes this measure streamlines the distribution process while ensuring the Employees' Retirement System retains its federal tax status.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1041, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1041, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 321 Labor on H.B. No. 158

The purpose of this measure is to authorize striking workers to be eligible for unemployment benefits.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Democratic Party of Hawai'i Labor Caucus; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; Hawai'i Nurses' Association; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; IATSE Local 665; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1357; Pride at Work; UNITE HERE! Local 5; United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; University of Hawaii Professional Assembly; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from NFIB Hawaii Chapter and the Society of Human Resource Management-Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Your Committee finds that employees who are striking during labor disputes with their employer are not eligible to receive unemployment benefits. Your Committee also finds that workers resort to striking only when all efforts have been exhausted to reach a fair agreement which results in striking workers undertaking financial burdens. Your Committee believes that this measure ensures striking workers are supported while they are working through an impasse with employers.

Your Committee amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 158, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 158, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 322 Health on H.B. No. 36

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit excited delirium from being:

- (1) Recognized as a valid medical diagnosis or cause of death in the State or stated on a certificate of death or any report as to the cause of death by a local health officer or agent of the Department of Health;
- (2) Used by a law enforcement officer to describe an individual in an incident report; and
- (3) Admitted as evidence in any civil action.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the ACLU of Hawai'i; National Police Accountability Project; Hui Malama Pono Hawaii; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health and Hawaii Disability Rights Center.

Your Committee finds that "excited delirium" is a term with no medical basis that is used to justify the use of excessive force by some law enforcement officers against individuals experiencing a mental health crisis. Your Committee further finds that "excited delirium" has no consistent definition or diagnostic criteria and is not currently included in the DSM-5, the authoritative classification system for mental health disorders used by medical professionals in the

United States. Your Committee believes that the interests of justice and public health and safety dictate that "excited delirium" should not be recognized as a valid cause of death, used in incident reports, or admissible in civil cases in the State.

Your Committee notes the concerns raised in testimony by the Department of Health that its role in recording causes of death is purely a ministerial function; the Department does not question, confirm, or alter causes of death.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Placing the new statutory language about cause of death in Chapter 327C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to death, rather than in Chapter 338, relating to vital statistics, and prohibiting medical examiners, coroners, and health care providers from recognizing excited delirium as a medical diagnosis or cause of death;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 36, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 36, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Alcos). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garcia).

SCRep. 323 Health on H.B. No. 213

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Healthcare Education Loan Repayment program to continue to provide loan repayment assistance to health care workers in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Governor; Department of Health; State Health Planning and Development Agency; University of Hawai'i at Mānoa John A. Burns School of Medicine; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Corporate Board of Directors; Hawai'i State Center for Nursing; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hawaii Dental Association; The Queen's Health Systems; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i; American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists – Hawai'i Section; Hawaii Medical Association; AlohaCare; Hawaii Medical Service Association; Hawaii Association of Health Plans; Hawai'i Association of Professional Nurses; and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that a persistent workforce shortage in the health care industry has created difficulties for patients trying to access health care services, in part because of the combination of the high cost of living in the State and the large amount of educational debt carried by many health care professionals. Your Committee further finds that the Legislature appropriated a total of \$30,000,000 over the 2024-2025 fiscal biennium to fund a Healthcare Education Loan Repayment Program (HELP), which assists health care professionals in Hawaii in repaying their health care education loans in exchange for a commitment to provide at least two years of health care service to patients in Hawaii.

In 2023, HELP awarded loan repayments to eight hundred ninety health care workers, including nearly three hundred primary care and behavioral health providers, and had approximately one thousand five hundred applicants waitlisted; these waitlisted applicants will be reviewed, and awards will continue to be provided to the extent that funding is available for 2024 applications. Your Committee believes that continuing to fund this program will help the State in addressing its health care workforce shortages, encourage health care professionals to remain in the State, and ensure Hawaii's residents receive timely access to health care services.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$15,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 213, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 213, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garcia).

SCRep. 324 Health on H.B. No. 474

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Health for the Fall Prevention and Early Detection Coordinator position established by Act 153, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging; AARP Hawai'i; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that falls among adults aged sixty-five and older are the leading cause of injury death for individuals in that age group. Your Committee further finds that Act 153, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014 (Act 153), established and appropriated funds for a Fall Prevention and Early Detection Coordinator position within the Department of Health's Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention Systems Branch. Your Committee believes that appropriating funds to address fall prevention will ensure safety and well-being of the State's older residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes the testimony of the Department of Health before your Committee, which stated that a full-time equivalent position dedicated to addressing fall prevention already exists within the Department of Health's Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention System Branch and that the funds appropriated by this measure may be better used to assist the existing Fall Prevention and Early Detection Coordinator in enhancing and expanding statewide programs and services that address fall prevention.

Accordingly, your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation of \$100,000 for the existing position and removing language specifying that the funds appropriated by this measure be used specifically for the Fall Prevention and Early Detection Coordinator position established by Act 153.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 474, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 474, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garcia).

SCRep. 325 Health on H.B. No. 729

The purpose of this measure is to end child marriage in Hawaii by:

- (1) Raising the minimum age for marriage from sixteen to eighteen;
- (2) Repealing the authority of parents and the Family Court to consent to a minor's marriage; and
- (3) Repealing spousal cohabitation after the parties attain legal age as an exception for an annulment based on nonage.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women; Kauai County Committee on the Status of Women; Zonta Club of Hilo; Unchained At Last; Service Women's Action Network; Zonta International USA Caucus; Protect Our Defenders; Equality Now; Zonta Club of Hilo Foundation; AHA Foundation; American Atheists; a petition signed by twenty-four individuals; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Health; and Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that there is growing national and international recognition that child marriage is a human rights violation. A child entering into a marriage has not reached the threshold of adulthood that grants certain rights and responsibilities and may have been pressured or coerced into marrying, especially if the marriage is because the child is pregnant or the result of sex trafficking. Girls are disproportionately affected by the practice of a child marriage, with the vast majority of marriages occurring between a minor female and an adult male. In Hawaii, of the approximately eight hundred child marriages that have taken place in the State since 2000, eighty percent of these marriages were minor females marrying adult men. Your Committee further finds that as of 2018, thirteen states and two territories have banned child marriage in their jurisdictions. Your Committee believes that ending child marriage in Hawaii will protect vulnerable minors from being coerced into marriages they do not want and cannot fully consent to.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Repealing language in the Uniform Guardianship and Protective Proceedings Act that empowered a guardian of a minor to consent to the marriage of the minor;
- (2) Amending the Penal Code to remove exceptions to sexual assault offenses if the person who committed the offense was legally married to the minor;
- (3) Inserting a savings clause;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 729, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 729, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garcia).

SCRep. 326 Health on H.B. No. 784

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the operation of an additional advanced life support ambulance to be based in the Makalei area on the island of Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Corporate Board of Directors; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Hawaii Fire Department; American Medical Response; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that there is an urgent need for an additional advanced life support ambulance to augment the Hawaii County emergency medical services system for residents of the North Kona area on the island of Hawaii. Your Committee further finds that for residents of the area, primary care services can be as far as thirty miles away. The vast coverage area, challenging terrain, and increasing traffic congestion all contribute to delayed emergency response times. The establishment of an additional advanced life support ambulance, as intended by this measure, will significantly improve response capabilities, ensuring residents and visitors receive swift, life-saving care.

Your Committee notes the consideration provided by the Department of Health in their written testimony before your Committee, regarding whether traditional 911 services would be the most efficient or cost effective for these communities, given the potentially lower emergency call volume. Your Committee also notes the alternative model suggested by the Department to utilize advanced life support services through community paramedicine or mobile integrated health programs, which are designed to address emergency and non-emergency medical needs at a potentially lower cost.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,750,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 784, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 784, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garcia).

SCRep. 327 Health on H.B. No. 816

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize emergency medical technicians in the State to administer buprenorphine after the administration of an opioid antagonist during an opioid overdose response; and
- (2) Require the Department of Health to adopt rules that incorporate standard protocols associated with opioid-related drug overdoses and buprenorphine administration, allocate resources for emergency medical technician training, and coordinate with emergency medical service providers in the State regarding buprenorphine administration.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Big Island Substance Abuse Council; Hawai'i Island Fentanyl Task Force; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that administration of an opioid antagonist in the case of an opioid overdose can have the unintended consequence of causing acute withdrawal symptoms in individuals, leading to severe distress, refusal of further treatment, or increased risk of repeat overdoses. Your Committee further finds that the administration of buprenorphine has been proven to prevent withdrawal symptoms and the administration of buprenorphine after the administration of an opioid antagonist has been adopted by many other states as part of their emergency medical services protocols. Your Committee believes that authorizing emergency medical technicians to administer buprenorphine after the administration of an opioid antagonist in cases of an opioid overdose may reduce the risk of repeat overdoses and provide a bridge to additional treatment.

Your Committee notes the concerns raised in testimony by the Department of Health that there are a lack of treatment centers in the State that can accept patients who have been administered buprenorphine by an emergency medical technician within a day or two after their emergency medical services encounter for follow up care and additional treatment with buprenorphine.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 816, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 816, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garcia).

SCRep. 328 Health on H.B. No. 341

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist the Hawai'i Island Community Health Center purchase or lease land on the island of Hawaii to develop primary care health care facilities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawai'i Island Community Health Center; AlohaCare; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that the Hawai'i Island Community Health Center plays a critical role in providing comprehensive, affordable and accessible health care who often face significant barriers to receiving timely medical attention, whether due to geographical isolation, financial constraints, or other shortages. Your Committee further finds that the issuance of special purpose revenues bonds to assist Hawai'i Island Community Health Center in purchasing or leasing land on the island of Hawaii will enable the State to increase access to primary care services for the residents of Hawaii island without imposing undue financial strain on taxpayers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the special purpose revenue bond issuance authorization amount to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider a special purpose revenue bond issuance authorization amount of \$80,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 341, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 341, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garcia).

SCRep. 329 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 934

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Transfer the Hawaii Broadband and Digital Equity Office from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services in the Department of Accounting and General Services; and
- (2) Establish the Broadband and Digital Equity Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor; Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities; University of Hawai'i System; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Budget and Finance; Office of Enterprise Technology Services; and Charter Communications.

Your Committee finds that reliable, affordable high speed internet access is essential for ensuring greater educational, economic, and social opportunities for all. This measure addresses this need by transferring the Hawaii Broadband and Digital Equity Office to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services to consolidate and centralize broadband responsibilities currently dispersed across state agencies and establishing the Broadband and Digital Equity Special Fund.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Excluding the deployment of broadband infrastructure for the provision of retail service from the authorized uses of the Broadband and Digital Equity Special Fund;
- (2) Changing the appropriations to unspecified amounts;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the appropriation amount of \$200,000 to be deposited into and appropriated out of the Broadband and Digital Equity Special Fund.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 934, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 934, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 330 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 650

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to provide education and support to local businesses regarding the United States Food and Drug Administration's guidance on colored sea salt.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Agriculture; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; H.K. Enterprise Group, Inc.; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the United States Food and Drug Administration's industry guidance on the use of color additives in sea salt products indicates that manufacturers who intend to use color additives that are not currently approved for food use should obtain approval through the color additive petition process. This measure appropriates funds to provide education and support to local businesses regarding the industry guidance on colored sea salt.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$300,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 650, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 650, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 331 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 437

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to establish an out-of-state office in the Philippines.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Oahu Filipino Community Council; Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii; Hawaii Philippines Business & Economic Council; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committee finds that enhancing economic ties between Hawaii and the Philippines presents significant opportunities for strengthening mutual economic development. This measure is intended to help foster these economic benefits by requiring the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to establish an out-of-state office in the Philippines.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the following appropriation amounts for the establishment of an out-of-state office in the Philippines:

- (1) \$200,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 for salaries, operating expenses, programmatic expenses, and start-up costs including a study as to where best to locate the office; and
- (2) \$175,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 and thereafter on a recurring basis.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 437, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 437, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 332 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 572

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Exempt food and groceries from the General Excise Tax; and

- (2) Expand General Excise Tax exemptions to include certain healthcare-related goods or services that were not purchased under the Medicare, Medicaid, and TRICARE programs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Association of Professional Nurses; Hawaii Food Industry Association; University of Hawai'i System; AlohaCare; Hawaii Association of Health Plans; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that expenses related to healthcare and food and groceries contribute heavily to the high cost of living in Hawaii. This measure seeks to lower the cost of living in the State by exempting food and groceries from the General Excise Tax and expanding General Excise Tax exemptions to include certain healthcare-related goods or services that were not purchased under the Medicare, Medicaid, and TRICARE programs.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 572, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 572, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 333 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 701

The purpose of this measure is to establish a refundable Family Caregiver Tax Credit for nonpaid family caregivers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Disability and Communication Access Board; AARP Hawai'i; Alzheimer's Association, Hawaii Chapter; Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition; Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council; Hawaii Primary Care Association; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Aloha United Way and the ALICE Initiative; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that a 2023 report from the AARP found that 154,000 Hawaii residents provide unpaid caregiving services for a loved one. Your Committee further finds that unpaid family caregivers face many physical, emotional, and financial challenges and often balance caregiving with work and other responsibilities. This measure helps provide support to these caregivers by establishing a Family Caregiver Tax Credit for nonpaid family caregivers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making the Family Caregiver Tax Credit non-refundable;
- (2) Requiring the Director of Taxation to prepare forms, ascertain the validity of claims, and adopt rules in consultation with the Executive Office on Aging;
- (3) Requiring the Executive Office on Aging to certify claims for tax credits;
- (4) Adding an appropriation of an unspecified sum for the Executive Office on Aging to certify claims for tax credits;
- (5) Changing the taxable years for which the Family Caregiver Tax Credit applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025;
- (6) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$750,000 for the Executive Office on Aging to certify claims for tax credits.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 701, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 701, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 334 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 753

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase a taxpayer's applicable percentage of employment-related expenses that is used to calculate the Household and Dependent Care Services Tax Credit; and
- (2) Align the sunset dates for the temporary increase in applicable percentage proposed by this measure and the temporary increase in maximum employment-related expenses enacted by Act 163, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, both of which are used to calculate the Household and Dependent Care Services Tax Credit, by extending the sunset date of the temporary increase in maximum employment-related expenses under Act 163, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from AARP Hawai'i; the Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition; Indivisible Hawai'i; Early Childhood Action Strategy; AAUW of Hawaii; Education Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Puakalehua Early Learning Consortium; Save Medicaid Hawaii; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Aloha United Way and the ALICE Initiative; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that child care costs in the State are rising, with the average cost of full-time child care in Hawaii currently exceeding \$13,000 a year. The Household and Dependent Care Services Tax Credit offers some financial relief from child care costs through a tax credit calculated by taking the applicable percentage, based on annual gross income, of employment-related expenses incurred. The Legislature attempted to strengthen the Household and Dependent Care Services Tax Credit with the enactment of Act 163, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023 (Act 163), which temporarily raises the amount of employment-related expenses that may be taken into account for the purposes of the credit. However, Act 163 did not also increase the applicable percentage

portion of the calculation of the tax credit, resulting in significantly less relief. This measure addresses the shortcomings of Act 163 by temporarily increasing the applicable percentage and making the temporary increases to the applicable percentage and employment-related expenses coincide.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 753, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 335 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 1442

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Office of Entrepreneurship; and
- (2) Authorize the use of funds in the Hawaii Film and Creative Industries Development Special Fund to fund a program in partnership with the Office of Entrepreneurship that creates opportunities in film, media, electronic sports, and creative industries for new businesses.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Chamber of Commerce Hawaii and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and Maui Chamber of Commerce.

Your Committee finds that according to a 2019 Bureau of Labor Statistics study, fifty percent of Hawaii businesses close within the first six years of operation. Your Committee further finds that Hawaii's entrepreneurs and new businesses need increased support from the State in order to help them be successful and stay in business. This measure addresses this need by establishing the Office of Entrepreneurship to support the growth of entrepreneurship, assist new businesses in interacting with state agencies, help entrepreneurs navigate regulatory requirements, and advocate for entrepreneurs.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1442, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1442, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 336 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 546

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for the Aloha Intelligence Institute within the University of Hawaii to develop, support, and advance artificial intelligence initiatives statewide.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Technology Development Corporation; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that artificial intelligence technologies are rapidly transforming industries and societies worldwide. Your Committee further finds that the State should ensure that it is properly positioned to take advantage of the many benefits of artificial intelligence. This measure addresses this need by establishing the Aloha Intelligence Institute to develop, support, and advance artificial intelligence initiatives statewide.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 546, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 337 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 796

The purpose of this measure is to require income tax credits established or renewed after December 31, 2025, to include a five-year sunset or a gradual reduction over a three-year period, beginning with the sixth year of the credit.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from HCANSpeaks!; SAG-AFTRA; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Labor Caucus; IATSE Local 665; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the State must establish a more fiscally responsible phase-out process for tax credits to ensure the State's long-term economic well-being. This measure addresses this need by requiring income tax credits established or renewed after December 31, 2025, to include a five-year sunset or a gradual reduction over a three-year period, beginning with the sixth year of the credit.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 796, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 796, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Hussey, Tam, Matsumoto). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 338 Education on H.B. No. 429

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Executive Office on Early Learning:

- (1) To hire teachers and teacher assistants; and
- (2) For equipment and services for public preschools.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Lieutenant Governor; Department of Human Services; Executive Office on Early Learning; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Kamehameha Schools; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the cost of childcare is a significant contributor to the high cost of living in the State. Many working families with young children or those considering having children cannot afford, or must save significantly to afford, a typical monthly childcare expense.

Your Committee further finds that increasing access to free public preschool education will help working families in Hawaii prepare their children for kindergarten, which would then dramatically improve the child's academic success and ultimate career opportunities. However, preschools across the State are encountering staffing shortages and lacking funding for services and equipment. This measure will provide funding for staff, equipment, and services for public preschools that will enable the State's young children to learn in a rich classroom environment.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the amounts appropriated and amount of positions to be funded to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider appropriating funds for the Executive Office on Early Learning, as follows:

- (1) \$5,027,927 for fiscal year 2025-2026, as follows:
 - (A) \$1,706,525 for twenty-five full-time equivalent (25.0 FTE) pre-school teacher positions;
 - (B) \$1,175,100 for twenty-five full-time equivalent (25.0 FTE) educational assistant III positions;
 - (C) \$787,552 for eight full-time equivalent (8.0 FTE) twelve-month state office teacher positions;
 - (D) \$48,750 for substitute teachers;
 - (E) \$200,000 for classroom supplies;
 - (F) \$175,000 for intra-state transportation;
 - (G) \$45,000 for subscriptions;
 - (H) \$45,000 for other miscellaneous current expenses;
 - (I) \$825,000 for furniture and furnishings; and
 - (J) \$20,000 for reference books; and
- (2) \$8,236,302 for fiscal year 2026-2027, as follows:
 - (A) \$3,413,050 for fifty full-time equivalent (50.0 FTE) pre-school teacher positions;
 - (B) \$2,350,200 for fifty full-time equivalent (50.0 FTE) educational assistant III positions;
 - (C) \$787,552 for eight full-time equivalent (8.0 FTE) twelve-month state office teacher positions;
 - (D) \$97,500 for substitute teachers;
 - (E) \$400,000 for classroom supplies;
 - (F) \$225,000 for intra-state transportation;
 - (G) \$55,000 for subscriptions;
 - (H) \$63,000 for other miscellaneous current expenses;
 - (I) \$825,000 for furniture and furnishings; and
 - (J) \$20,000 for reference books.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 429, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 429, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 339 Education on H.B. No. 621

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Education to pay salary differentials for English learner educators; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to fund the pay differentials.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights; Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights; Waipahu Safe Haven Immigrant/Migrant Resource Center; Secondary Student Conference Student Achievement Committee; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the Department of Education. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of Collective Bargaining. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and State Public Charter School Commission.

Your Committee finds that there is a critical shortage of qualified English language learner educators in Hawaii, which is having a detrimental impact on the education of students whose primary language is not English. Your Committee further finds that providing a pay differential to English language educators is a proven strategy to incentivize skilled professionals to enter and remain in the profession.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 621, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 621, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 340 Education on H.B. No. 863

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Education for teacher-requested classroom supplies.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; State Public Charter School Commission; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii; and eight individuals.

Your Committee finds that nationwide, teachers spend an average of \$500 out of pocket on their classrooms each year. This measure appropriates funds to the Department of Education to provide teachers with their requested classroom supplies and will alleviate the financial burden on teachers in acquiring their own supplies.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the amount appropriated to an unspecified amount; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$3,000,000 for teacher-requested classroom supplies.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 863, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 863, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 341 Education on H.B. No. 98

The purpose of this measure is to authorize public school complexes to use authentic assessments as part of classroom-based performance assessments.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 and the 2009 United States Department of Education grant competition, the Race to the Top Assessment Program, shifted national education priorities from inquiry-based teaching to standardized testing and led teachers and administrators to spend more time, money, and energy on standardized testing at the expense of alternative learning pathways. Your Committee further finds that an overemphasis on standardized testing narrows academic curricula, causing teachers to teach to the test and leading to a reduction in vocational programs and arts and cultural education.

Your Committee notes that the federal Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 urged states to adopt innovative assessments as an alternative to standardized testing. Authentic assessments are one example of an innovative assessment, as they align classroom curricula with real-world problem solving. This measure will enable public school complex areas to use authentic assessments as part of classroom-based performance assessments to encourage student achievement.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 98, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 98, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 342 Education on H.B. No. 627

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Education for positions to implement and maintain school safety measures.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Department of Education; Hawai'i Fire Department; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that funding is critically needed for school safety measures, including active threat response training, hazardous material disposal contracts, school safety equipment, threat assessment and reporting, and fire safety. Your Committee further finds that state funding for school safety measures is a proactive step to protect schools in the State and ensure that students can focus on learning without fear.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the amount appropriated and amount of positions to be funded to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$15,800,000 for one targeted violence prevention and threat assessment program manager and one fire safety and security technology program manager to implement and maintain school safety measures.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 627, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 627, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 343 Education on H.B. No. 629

The purpose of this measure is to expand the scopes of practice for occupational therapists, physical therapists, and speech pathologists employed by or contracted with the Department of Education to diagnose students with a medical condition and treat the students.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services; Department of Education; Hawai'i FASD Action Group; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the Hawaii Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; American Physical Therapy Association-Hawaii; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Board of Physical Therapy.

Your Committee finds that timely access to occupational, physical, and speech therapy services is critical for supporting students' development, particularly with physical, sensory, cognitive, and communication skills. These services will enable students to benefit more effectively from their learning environments and participate more fully in educational and social activities.

Your Committee further finds that amending Hawaii's occupational therapy, physical therapy, and speech pathology laws is necessary to promote a more cost effective model for delivering therapeutic services to students in the Department of Education. By allowing these services to be provided after a diagnosis of a medical condition without a physician's diagnosis, the Department of Education can more effectively bill for these services, generating additional funding to support and enhance therapeutic resources for students.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the concerns raised in testimony by the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and other entities regarding whether the actions allowed by this measure fall outside the scope of practice for occupational therapists, physical therapists, and speech pathologists.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 629, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 629, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 344 Education on H.B. No. 763

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Hawaii Civic Education Trust Fund for the educational benefit of students in the Hawaii public school system; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the expansion of civic education in public schools.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; PACE Commission; Hawai'i Youth Food Council; Green Party of Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the Department of Education. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that civic education prepares students to participate in the public and political lives of their communities and helps them develop critical thinking skills that are vital to the functioning of a democratic nation. Your Committee further finds that the establishment of a Hawaii Civic Education Trust Fund and providing funding to the Department of Education to increase access to civic education in Hawaii's public school systems will increase voter turnout and citizen engagement over the long term.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the amount appropriated and amount of positions to be funded to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of:

- (1) \$84,000 for the expansion of civic education in public schools; and
- (2) \$200,000 for two permanent civic education resource teacher positions.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 763, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 763, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 345 Education on H.B. No. 637

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require schools to administer Department of Education-approved dyslexia-sensitive universal screening as a part of the universal screening process;
- (2) Implement evidence-based interventions for students who are identified as having dyslexia and students who are flagged as having language and literacy challenges through the Hawaii multi-tiered system of supports;
- (3) Provide professional development for teachers to increase the implementation of structured literacy instruction; and
- (4) Support pre-service teacher programs in training their general and special education teacher candidates in structured literacy instruction.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; HawaiiKidsCAN; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Renaissance Learning; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Lou's Quality Home

Health Care Services, LLC; Advanced Care Training, LLC; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Education is striving to address poor reading proficiency rates by administering a universal screener at the beginning, middle, and end of the year for all students from kindergarten to grade nine to identify students who may be at risk for reading failure and to provide evidence-based interventions to support these students. However, not all universal screeners are able to detect or identify students who may have certain underlying language challenges that impact learning, which is problematic because students with dyslexia or other developmental language disorders may need more intensive support or a more individualized intervention program to address the causes of their reading challenges. This measure will support students with dyslexia and students with language and literacy challenges, which will enable these young students to achieve academic success in an effective and efficient manner.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Appropriating an unspecified amount of funds to the Department of Education for dyslexia-sensitive universal screeners;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$750,000 for dyslexia-sensitive universal screeners.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 637, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 637, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 346 Education on H.B. No. 620

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Education to include the instruction of braille and provision of braille instructional materials under certain circumstances; and
- (2) Require and appropriate funds to the Department of Education to establish and maintain a braille literacy resource center.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii; Hawaii State Committee of Blind Vendors; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Education; and Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that literacy skills are necessary for success in education, employment, and life for all members of society, including individuals who have low vision or are blind. Your Committee further finds that Braille literacy skills are fundamental for low vision and blind students to learn, seek and maintain remunerative employment, and access the opportunities in life open to all regardless of disability. Your Committee believes that it is in the best interest of the State to make learning opportunities available to all residents. Therefore, your Committee finds it necessary to promote Braille instruction and the timely access to braille instructional materials for low vision and blind students, parents, teachers, and other school personnel.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 620, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 620, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 347 Education on H.B. No. 439

The purpose of this measure is to require the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board to establish an international teaching license for certain visa holders and the criteria for obtaining the international teaching license.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Hawaii Association of Filipino Educators; Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights; Oahu Filipino Community Council; Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii; Foreign Cultural Exchange Consultants LLC; Kings Church; Alliance Abroad Group; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that the BridgeUSA J-1 visa program, administered by the United States Department of State, offers foreign teachers an opportunity to teach in accredited schools in the United States servicing students in grades kindergarten through twelve. Since its implementation, the J-1 visa program has been of great success, especially in bringing educators from the Philippines to the State, serving in 55 public schools statewide.

Your Committee further finds that the State's existing licensing rules hinder the full potential of prospective teachers for the J-1 visa program. The State's existing licensure reciprocity policies also do not adequately recognize the international qualifications of J-1 teachers. This measure will recognize the qualifications and experience of international educators, while ensuring equitable compensation, to fully leverage the skills, knowledge, and experience of international educators.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have established the criteria for obtaining an international teacher license;
- (2) Requiring the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board to establish the requirements necessary to obtain the international teacher license;
- (3) Requiring the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board to submit a report to the Legislature prior to the 2026 Regular Session on how to support international teachers teaching in the State through the J-1 visa program;

- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 439, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 439, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11; Ayes with Reservations (Muraoka). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 348 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 749

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Cesspool Conversion Section within the Department of Health's Wastewater Branch that is dedicated to facilitating the conversion of cesspools within the State; and
- (2) Establish and appropriate funds for positions within the Cesspool Conversion Section.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Public Access to SunScreens Coalition; Hawai'i Reef Ocean Coalition; Coral Reef Alliance; Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea; WAI: Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations; The Nature Conservancy; Hawai'i Wai Ola; Resources Legacy Fund; Pacific Whale Foundation; Surfrider Foundation; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that every cesspool in the State, excluding cesspools granted certain exemptions, is required to be upgraded or converted to a director-approved wastewater system or connected to a sewerage system by January 1, 2050. Your Committee further finds that the Department of Health needs additional personnel to facilitate compliance with this mandate. This measure addresses this need by establishing a Cesspool Conversion Section within the Wastewater Branch of the Department of Health which will be responsible for facilitating the conversion of cesspools within the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the number of positions established to an unspecified number;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$280,000 and three full-time equivalent (3.0 FTE) positions within the Cesspool Conversion Section.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 749, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 749, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 349 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 977

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund to be used to provide financial assistance to underserved ratepayers, in addition to other eligible borrowers; and
- (2) Appropriate funds into and out of the Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation Commission; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Inter-Island Solar Supply; Shifted Energy; Alternate Energy Hawaii; HNU-Energy; 350Hawaii.org; Coalition Earth; and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that rooftop solar plus storage systems will help the State meet its one hundred percent renewable energy portfolio standard goal by 2045 and help reduce reliance on imported fossil fuels. Your Committee further finds that while the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority was awarded \$62,000,000 in federal solar-for-all loan funds, these funds are restricted to low-income households, leaving moderate-income households and other underserved ratepayers without access to financing for these solar systems. This measure addresses this need by authorizing the Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund to be used to provide financial assistance to underserved ratepayers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the appropriation amount of \$50,000,000 to be deposited into and appropriated out of the Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 977, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 977, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 350 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 1020

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Carbon Sequestration and Underground Water Resource Characterization Program and require an environmental assessment of the program's actions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Hawaii State Energy Office; Ulupono Initiative; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Honolulu Board of Water Supply.

Your Committee finds that resource characterization via slim-hole bores can help identify water and carbon sequestration resources across the State. Your Committee further finds that these resources can serve as a viable form of renewable energy. This measure establishes the Carbon Sequestration and Underground Water Resource Characterization Program to identify the location and characteristics of underground water and carbon sequestration resources.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Hawaii State Energy Office to collaborate with the Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to implement the Carbon Sequestration and Underground Water Resource Characterization Program and conduct an environmental assessment;
- (2) Changing the appropriations to unspecified amounts;
- (3) Changing the number of positions established to an unspecified number;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider appropriation amounts of:

- (1) \$16,500,000 for the Carbon Sequestration and Underground Water Resource Characterization Program; and
- (2) \$135,000 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent position.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1020, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1020, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 351 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 1076

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Climate Mitigation and Resiliency Special Fund, to be funded by an allocation of all earned interest from the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund, and appropriate funds out of the Climate Mitigation and Resiliency Special Fund to advance projects addressing climate change impacts.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Governor, including Recovery and Resiliency Units; Hawai'i Climate Advisory Team; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Emergency Management Agency; Hawaii State Energy Office; Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Hawai'i Land Trust; Hawai'i Food + Policy; Coalition Earth; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Care for 'Āina Now Coalition; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the interest generated by the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund, also known as the "Rainy Day Fund," is generally reinvested into the original fund. By allocating the interest generated into the Climate Mitigation and Resiliency Special Fund, this measure provides a necessary funding source to address the impacts of climate change.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$60,000,000 to advance projects addressing climate change impacts.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1076, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1076, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 352 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 1295

The purpose of this measure is to require all state and county agencies to utilize applicable federal clean energy tax credits, pursuant to the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, for the purchase and financing of capital improvement projects that use clean energy technology and zero-emission vehicles.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Public Utilities Commission and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 allows for "elective pay", a tax credit monetization option commonly known as "direct pay", which makes clean energy tax benefits available to state and local governments, amongst other entities. This measure requires all state and county agencies to utilize applicable federal clean energy tax credits, pursuant to the Inflation Reduction Act, for the purchase and financing of capital improvement projects that use clean energy and zero-emission vehicles.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1295, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1295, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 353 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1181

The purpose of this measure is to exclude the reconstruction of certain lawfully constructed structures that were damaged by certain types of disasters from the definition of "development" for coastal zone management purposes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; one member of the Maui County Council; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Lahaina Brewery, dba Koholā Brewery; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

Your Committee finds that reconstruction after a disaster requires the rebuilding of all aspects of a community, from small residential homes to larger commercial buildings. Your Committee further finds that most non-shoreline projects trigger a Special Management Area Major permit, a time-consuming process that can delay construction efforts. Your Committee believes that expediting the reconstruction of structures in the aftermath of a disaster, as proposed by this measure, will enable impacted communities to recover without unnecessary delays.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Replacing the types of reconstruction excluded from the definition of "development" with reconstruction of any lawfully constructed structure that was damaged or destroyed in a disaster proclaimed to be a state of emergency or local state of emergency; provided that the structure is not situated on a shoreline parcel or a parcel that is impacted by waves, storm surges, high tide, or shoreline erosion and the reconstructed structure is similar to its original footprint or the overall dimensions that were existing or permitted and is in compliance with the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1181, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1181, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ichiyama).

SCRep. 354 Water & Land on H.B. No. 732

The purpose of this measure is to increase the valuation of development that determines the necessity of a special management area minor permit or special management area use permit to \$750,000 and require that amount to be increased annually for inflation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu; one member of the Maui County Council; and Grassroot Institute of Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

Your Committee finds that inflation and increasing construction costs have made it necessary to adjust the valuation threshold for special management area permits to ensure that regulatory requirements remain aligned with ongoing economic conditions. The existing threshold no longer accurately reflects the cost of development, leading to unnecessary burdens on small-scale projects that do not pose significant environmental risks. By implementing a periodically adjusted development valuation threshold based on inflation, this measure ensures that permit requirements remain relevant and proportionate while maintaining environmental protections.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the \$750,000 development valuation threshold to be adjusted for inflation every five years, rather than annually;
- (2) Amending the definition of "special management area minor permit" to include developments of single-family residences that are less than 3,500 square feet of floor area and are not part of larger developments;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion;
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 732, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 732, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 355 Water & Land on H.B. No. 86

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the establishment of one full-time equivalent permanent Program Specialist V position to coordinate and implement actions necessary to meet the goals and objectives of the Makai Watch Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Hawai'i Ocean Legislative Task Force; Malama Pūpūkea-Waimea; Hawai'i Farmers Union; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Makai Watch Program has been instrumental in fostering community engagement and effective co-management of nearshore marine resources. Expanding this program, including establishing a permanent statewide coordinator, is critical to ensuring the long-term sustainability of Hawaii's marine ecosystems amidst growing environmental pressures.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 86, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 86, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ichiyama).

SCRep. 356 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1278

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the assessment and removal of hazardous trees on state lands.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that according to the 2023 State of Hawaii Hazard Mitigation Plan, windstorm events significantly contribute to downed trees, which can cause power outages, road closures, significant traffic delays, and serious injuries. Your Committee further finds that the State has a duty to maintain state-owned forests adjacent to residential areas to protect the health and safety of these communities from the dangers posed by downed trees. Your Committee believes that providing the Department of Land and Natural Resources with dedicated funds for the assessment and removal of hazardous trees on state lands will enable the Department to promptly address hazardous trees and protect human life and property.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1278, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1278, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ichiyama).

SCRep. 357 Water & Land on H.B. No. 781

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Waiahole Water System for bond debt service and tunnel repair.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Agribusiness Development Corporation; Ulupono Initiative; Hawaii Agriculture Research Center; Kunia Village Title Holding Corporation; Bayer; Larry Jeffs Farms, LLC; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Crop Improvement Association; Hawai'i Farmers Union; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Waiahole Water System (System) plays an essential role in supporting agriculture on Oahu through the delivery of a reliable source of irrigation water to local farming operations in the central and leeward regions of the island. Your Committee further finds that while the System's water users have grown more efficient with their use, users pay significantly more for water from the System than others pay for agricultural water from comparable systems, due in large part to existing debt owed on general obligation bonds issued in 1999 to enable the Agribusiness Development Corporation to purchase the System and replace the System's three deteriorated redwood siphons. Additionally, crucial repairs are needed to the System's infrastructure. Your Committee believes that appropriating funds to pay off the remaining debt service on bond obligations and perform necessary repairs will reduce water costs and ensure all users who depend on the System continue to have reliable access to water.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$4,500,000 to pay the bond debt service on the Waiahole Water System and \$2,000,000 for the repair of the adit 8 tunnel of the Waiahole Water System.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 781, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ichiyama).

SCRep. 358 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1141

The purpose of this measure is to require lease extensions approved by the Board of Land and Natural Resources to be drafted on the most current approved lease form, be subject to the most current leasing practices and policies, not rules, of the Board of the Land and Natural Resources, and control over conflicting or inconsistent provisions in a lease being extended.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that issues that were identified in Auditor's Report No. 19-12 and a subsequent House Investigative Committee report are of significance to the State, as the inability to update lease terms and conditions not only deprives the public of a fair return for the use of public lands, but also could lead to additional liability against the State and significant public health and safety issues, such as when structures beyond their useful life are left on public lands at the end of a lease. This measure increases departmental revenue and mitigates against future liability for public health and safety issues by allowing the Board of Land and Natural Resources to update lease terms and conditions upon extension of the lease.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1141, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1141, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 359 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1143

The purpose of this measure is to reenact the Historic Preservation Income Tax Credit for substantial rehabilitation of a certified historic structure that was repealed on December 31, 2024.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Historic Hawai'i Foundation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the Historic Preservation Income Tax Credit provided property owners in the State economic support and incentive to continue to rehabilitate, adaptively reuse, and preserve historic buildings and residences. This measure provides the Department of Land and Natural Resources with a valuable tool and incentive to promote investment and economic development in the State by maintaining historic buildings.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the annual aggregate tax credit caps to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an aggregate tax credit cap of \$1,000,000 for each taxable year.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1143, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1143, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 360 Water & Land on H.B. No. 211

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the storage of personal property in or near a public stream or tributary.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that the State's public streams and tributaries play a vital role in the State's ecosystems, serve as crucial infrastructure for managing stormwater, and provide recreational and aesthetic value to residents and visitors. Your Committee further finds that improper storage of personal property in or near these waterways pose significant environmental, health, and safety risks, including obstructing water flow, increasing flood potential, and introducing pollutants into the ecosystem. Your Committee believes that prohibiting the storage of personal property in or near public streams will protect public safety and maintain the functionality and health of the State's waterways for present and future generations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the counties, rather than the Department of Land and Natural Resources, are responsible for removing and disposing of personal property stored in or near a channel, streambed, streambank, or drainageway;
- (2) Deeming personal property stored in or near a channel, streambed, streambank, or drainageway for a continuous period of more than twenty-four hours to be abandoned property and authorizing the State and counties to dispose of it;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 211, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 211, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ichiyama).

SCRep. 361 Water & Land on H.B. No. 649

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Small Boat Harbor Commercial Vessel Special Fund, to be used for improvements that primarily benefit commercial vessels utilizing the State's small boat harbors;
- (2) Increase moorage fees for commercial vessels in small boat harbors; and
- (3) Authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds for repairs of various small boat harbors, with debt service to be paid from special funds.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Maui Hotel and Lodging Association; Calypso Charters; Ocean Tourism Coalition; Body Glove Cruises; Sea Paradise Scuba Inc.; Sail Maui; Sailing Maui Inc.; Sea Quest Hawaii; Captain Andy's Sailing Adventures; Holo Holo Charters, Inc.; Maui Classic Charters; Outfitters Kauai Ltd; Explore Kauai Scuba, LLC; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that the State's small boat harbors are in need of significant repair. Your Committee further finds that increasing the fees charged to commercial vessels who moor in small boat harbors and allocating those fees to a special fund will enable the State to make badly needed improvements to the State's small boat harbor infrastructure.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the percent of gross revenues a vessel used for commercial purposes must pay in lieu of a monthly moorage fee to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the percent of total revenues collected from vessels used for commercial purposes from permitted moorings in a small boat harbor that are to be allocated to the Small Boat Harbor Commercial Vessel Special Fund to an unspecified amount;
- (3) Changing the general obligation bond issuance and appropriation allocations to unspecified amounts;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider increasing the percent of gross revenues paid by a commercial vessel in lieu of a monthly moorage fee to five percent, allocating forty percent of all revenues collected to the Small Boat Harbor Commercial Vessel Special Fund, and authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds in the amount of \$32,000,000, with \$9,000,000 going to capital improvement projects at the Ala Wai small boat harbor, \$8,000,000 going to capital improvement projects at the Haleiwa small boat harbor, \$4,500,000 going to capital improvement projects at the Honokohau small boat harbor, \$6,000,000 going to capital improvement projects at the Maalaea small boat harbor, and \$4,500,000 going to capital improvement projects at the Port Allen small boat harbor.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 649, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 649, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Morikawa). Noes, 2 (Shimizu, Souza). Excused, 1 (Ichiyama).

SCRep. 362 Water & Land on H.B. No. 510

The purpose of this measure is to amend the conditions, manner, and areas in which the Commission on Water Resource Management can declare and provide notice of water shortages and emergencies.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Honolulu Board of Water Supply. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawai'i Farm Bureau.

Your Committee finds that the Commission on Water Resource Management (Commission) is tasked with formulating water shortage plans and adopting a reasonable system of permits to properly plan for future water shortages. Your Committee further finds that existing law does not allow the Commission to declare a water shortage in non-designated water management areas. As water shortages affect all users in a region, your Committee believes that it is vital to allow the Commission to respond to conditions anywhere in the State that threaten the State's water supply when issuing water shortage and emergency declarations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 510, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 510, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Morikawa, Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ichiyama).

SCRep. 363 Water & Land on H.B. No. 778

The purpose of this measure is to require the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to develop an integrated land use study that incorporates the State's various climate and sustainability goals and studies to serve as a guide for planning and decision making on the use of agricultural lands.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union; and Hawaii Food+ Policy. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that the State has enacted multiple climate and sustainability statutory targets, including the development of affordable rental housing units, doubling food production, sequestering more atmospheric carbon and greenhouse gases, and requiring all electricity in the State to come from renewable sources. Your Committee further finds that these goals can create conflicting interests when it comes to the use of the State's limited agricultural land resources. Your Committee believes a comprehensive study to assess existing land uses, identify conflicts, and develop balanced solutions will ensure the State puts its limited agricultural lands to their highest and best use while meeting its statutory and policy commitments.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, when conducting the study, to:
 - (A) Clearly define and prioritize the protection of productive agricultural lands, including adopting measures to ensure agricultural lands designated for agriculture production are not compromised for short-term developmental needs; and
 - (B) Include direct input from the agricultural community;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 778, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 778, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ichiyama).

SCRep. 364 Culture & Arts on H.B. No. 554

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Designate the second new moon after the winter solstice of every year as Lunar New year; and
- (2) Establish Lunar New Year as a state holiday.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Collective Bargaining; Department of Budget and Finance; and Department of Human Resources of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that by celebrating Lunar New Year in Hawaii, the State can honor its rich cultural history, demonstrate its commitment to cultural diversity, and extend its best wishes for peace and prosperity to all who celebrate this important occasion. Your Committee recognizes that the Asian

community in Hawaii has contributed greatly not only to the State's social, civic, and economic success, but also to its diverse and vibrant culture, which includes the celebration of Lunar New Year. Your Committee believes that this measure honors the rich and diverse Asian community in the State by designating the second new moon after the winter solstice of every year Lunar New Year as a special day.

Your Committee amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing language that would establish Lunar New year as a state holiday and clarifying that Lunar New Year shall not be construed to be a state holiday;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 554, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 554, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 365 Culture & Arts on H.B. No. 345

The purpose of this measure is to designate the 'ōpae 'ula as the state shrimp to help protect the anchialine pool ecosystems in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Hawai'i Ocean Legislative Task Force; Hawai'i Wildlife Fund; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Pacific Whale Foundation; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition.

Your Committee finds that 'ōpae 'ula are an endemic species found in abundance in healthy anchialine pools in the State. Your Committee also finds that anchialine pools are considered culturally sacred and should be protected. Your Committee believes that this measure will raise awareness of the protection efforts of anchialine pools by designating 'ōpae 'ula as the state shrimp.

Your Committee amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 345, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 345, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 366 Culture & Arts on H.B. No. 957

The purpose of this measure is to designate May 1 of each year as Lau Lau Day.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Farm Bureau and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that the consumption and preparation of laulau are cherished practices in Hawaiian communities, serving as a symbol of unity and cultural pride. Your Committee also finds that the preservation and promotion of Hawaiian food traditions are essential to honoring the rich legacy of Native Hawaiian culture and fostering a deeper understanding of the cultural practices that have been passed down through generations. Your Committee believes that designating one day each year as Lau Lau Day will provide an opportunity to celebrate and recognize the cultural significance of laulau and support local farmers, restaurants, and communities who keep this tradition alive.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Designating the first Friday in May, rather than May 1, of each year as Lau Lau Day;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 957, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 957, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 367 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 1051

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Extend the State's deadline to achieve its energy-efficiency portfolio standards from 2030 to 2045 and update the standards;
- (2) Require the Public Utilities Commission to establish additional interim standards for electricity use reduction to be achieved by 2035 and 2040; and
- (3) Authorize the Public Utilities Commission to adjust the 2030 and 2045 standards and interim standards.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Public Utilities Commission; Hawaii State Energy Office; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority; Office of Economic Development of the County of Kaua'i; Hawai'i Energy; Hawaiian Electric; Ulupono Initiative; 350Hawaii.org; Coalition Earth; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the energy-efficiency portfolio standard set the statewide energy efficiency goal for 2030 at four thousand three hundred gigawatt hours and directed the Public Utilities Commission to establish interim goals for 2015, 2020, and 2025. Your Committee further finds that there is a need to extend these standards and ensure that the Public Utilities Commission can continue its work developing and overseeing the State's energy-efficiency portfolio

standards beyond 2030. This measure extends and updates the energy-efficiency portfolio standards established and overseen by the Public Utilities Commission.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1051, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1051, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 368 Transportation on H.B. No. 368

The purpose of this measure is to exempt from restrictions on light transmittance percentages, up to a certain percent, of certain motor vehicle sun screening devices for persons having light sensitivity of the eyes due to a medical condition.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that individuals with light sensitivity due to a medical condition, such as those related to eye or skin conditions, often face difficulties driving in bright sunlight despite using protective eyewear. Your Committee further finds that existing laws do not sufficiently accommodate these individuals, as existing restrictions on sun screening devices do not allow for the level of protection necessary for their safety and well-being. This measure ensures individuals with light sensitivity can safely operate their vehicles without compromising their health, while still maintaining road safety standards.

Your Committee notes that as this measure moves through the legislative process, clarification is needed on which authority should be responsible for regulating and approving medical conditions to ensure consistent enforcement and compliance with this measure.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 368, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 368, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

SCRep. 369 Transportation on H.B. No. 860

The purpose of this measure is to provide immunity to the State and counties for injuries sustained due to the repair or maintenance of streets undertaken by the State or a county, in cases in which the ownership or jurisdiction of such streets is in dispute between the State and a county.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and Office of the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaii Association for Justice and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that roads for which ownership or jurisdiction is in dispute between the State and a county often suffer from a lack of repair and maintenance. Therefore, government agencies are unwilling to maintain these roads because of potential liability issues associated with the repair and maintenance of the roads. This measure seeks to address this issue by providing immunity to the State and counties for personal injuries or property damage arising out of the repair or maintenance of roads in limbo.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 860, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 860, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 370 Transportation on H.B. No. 1167

The purpose of this measure is to make an emergency appropriation to the Department of Transportation to enforce the Motor Carrier Law.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that Act 117, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, transferred the enforcement of the Motor Carrier Law from the Public Utilities Commission to the Department of Transportation. However, your Committee notes that this transfer of responsibility was made with no transfer of funds or personnel to enforce the Motor Carrier Law. This measure will ensure the Department of Transportation has the necessary resources to enforce the Motor Carrier Law throughout the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,500,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1167, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1167, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 371 Transportation on H.B. No. 135

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds and appropriate funds for the purchase of the real property located at 64-486 Kamehameha Highway on the North Shore of Oahu.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the purchase of the real property located at 64-486 Kamehameha Highway, also known as "weed circle", on the North Shore of Oahu, is important to realizing sustainable development for communities in the area. Your Committee further finds that, with the City and County of Honolulu implementing its North Shore Sustainable Communities Plan, this property will serve as the primary parking hub where residents and visitors will be able to park and access a shuttle service that will reduce traffic congestion and improve the quality of life for area residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to work with the Department of Transportation to determine an appropriate dollar amount to be inserted into the measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 135, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 135, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 372 Transportation on H.B. No. 1259

The purpose of this measure is to specify that an engineering study is not required to be considered when reducing the maximum speed limit within ten miles per hour of the existing speed limit for that road.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that existing requirements for an engineering study before reducing speed limits creates a delay in implementing necessary traffic safety measures. This requirement can be particularly burdensome when modest speed limit reductions, such as those within ten miles per hour of the existing speed limit, are warranted to improve road safety. This measure is crucial to allow more efficient adjustments to speed limits, thereby enhancing public safety without unnecessary procedural obstacles.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1259, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1259, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 373 Transportation on H.B. No. 1422

The purpose of this measure is to exempt non-profit community-based organizations that provide transportation services from the State's motor carrier regulations, under certain circumstances.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Economic Development of the County of Kaua'i; The Hanalei Initiative; Hui Maka'āinana o Makana; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Public Utilities Commission; and Hawaii Transportation Association.

Your Committee finds that traffic congestion near Hawaii's popular natural and cultural sites is exacerbated by limited parking along state highways and county roads. Community-based non-profit organizations that provide transportation services have proven effective in alleviating this congestion, but their operations are hindered by existing regulations that do not account for their unique role. This measure will allow community-based non-profit organizations to continue providing essential transportation services that reduce traffic and support the preservation of natural and cultural resources by exempting them from certain motor carrier regulatory requirements.

Your Committee notes the concerns stated in testimony by the Public Utilities Commission requesting clarification as to the definition a "non-profit community-based organization" as it would be difficult for the Commission to determine or qualify what is community-based. Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, should it deliberate on this measure, to work with the Public Utilities Commission in establishing an appropriate definition of a non-profit community based organization.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1422, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1422, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 374 Transportation on H.B. No. 1156

The purpose of this measure is to increase the total principal amount of special facility revenue bonds that may be issued by the Department of Transportation for harbor improvements.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that special facility revenue bonds expedite certain projects at commercial harbor facilities and increase project efficiencies. Your Committee further finds that the Department of Transportation has experienced escalating project costs due to inflation and rising costs of materials and labor. Future projects that would use special facility revenue bonds are large in scope and scale and will require funding above the existing limit, which was last increased in 1993. This measure will allow the Department of Transportation to expedite additional projects and prioritize public improvements to harbor facilities by increasing the amount of special facility revenue bonds for harbor improvements.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the total principal amount of special facility revenue bonds that may be issued to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider a total principal amount of \$600,000,000 for special facility revenue bonds that may be issued by the Department of Transportation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1156, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1156, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 375 Transportation on H.B. No. 960

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the maximum value of capital advancement contracts that may be executed by the Department of Transportation without legislative approval;
- (2) Repeal the requirement for the Department of Transportation to obtain legislative approval for capital advancement contracts;
- (3) Increase the total aggregate value of capital advancement contracts the Department of Transportation may enter into in a fiscal year; and
- (4) Establish certain reporting requirements to the Legislature related to capital advancement contracts.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Young Brothers, LLC; and Chamber of Commerce Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the existing cap of \$2,000,000 per contract and an aggregate limit of \$5,000,000 per party restricts the scope, type, and number of projects that can be undertaken under a capital advancement contract. Increasing these limits to at least \$5,000,000 per contract and \$20,000,000 in total would enable the Department of Transportation to enhance port facility improvements more effectively. Given rising project costs due to inflation and increasing material and labor expenses, higher caps would allow for more efficient project execution and delivery.

Your Committee, therefore, respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider increasing the amounts by at least \$5,000,000 per contract and \$20,000,000 in total.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the reporting period to align with the fiscal year;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 960, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 960, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 376 Transportation on H.B. No. 706

The purpose of this measure is to require the use of a helmet by anyone under the age of sixteen while riding a skateboard.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition; Kapiolani Medical Center for Women & Children; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that skateboarding, while a popular recreational activity, poses significant safety risks to the head and face. Given the serious consequences of head trauma, particularly for young people, your Committee finds that the implementation of helmet requirements for skateboarders under the age of sixteen will help mitigate the risk of serious injury.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and

- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 706, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 706, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 377 Transportation on H.B. No. 177

The purpose of this measure is to make the issuance or renewal of a civil identification card free of charge.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Transportation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that civil identification cards are primarily used by elderly individuals, people with disabilities, minors, homeless individuals, and non-drivers. This measure removes the financial barriers to obtaining an identification card, while streamlining the administrative process.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to June 30, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes the concerns in the Department of the Attorney General's written testimony regarding the absence of a state cost sharing mechanism with the counties as this measure requires the counties to incur costs without a dedicated funding source.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 177, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 177, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 378 Transportation on H.B. No. 169

The purpose of this measure is to increase:

- (1) The minimum age for moped operators from fifteen to sixteen years; and
- (2) The minimum age requirement for individuals prohibited from operating a moped unless they wear a safety helmet from eighteen to twenty-one years.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Moped Doctors Inc.; Mopeds Direct; and seven individuals.

Your Committee finds that helmets significantly reduce the risk of life-threatening injuries for moped operators. This measure enhances the safety for moped riders and all road users.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee notes the concerns regarding raising the minimum age requirement for operating a moped while wearing a safety helmet from eighteen to twenty-one. Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider whether this requirement is appropriate.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 169, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 169, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Muraoka). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 379 Transportation on H.B. No. 277

The purpose of this measure is to statutorily establish statewide vehicular law enforcement pursuit policies.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Policing Project; ACLU Hawai'i; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Police Department and Maui Police Department. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Information Practices.

Your Committee finds that vehicular pursuits by law enforcement pose significant risks to public safety, particularly given Hawaii's unique road conditions and densely populated areas. Establishing clear and uniform statewide policies regarding vehicular pursuit, will help ensure that pursuits are conducted only when absolutely necessary and in a manner that prioritizes the safety of officers, suspects, and the general public.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes the concerns raised by the county police departments in their written testimony on whether codifying vehicular pursuit policies is the most appropriate form of establishing statewide standards rather than through the existing Law Enforcement Standards Board.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 277, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 277, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 380 Transportation on H.B. No. 220

The purpose of this measure is to require that persons operating mopeds in the State carry an insurance policy.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Moped Doctors Inc.; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committee finds that mopeds, like motorcycles, pose significant risks to operators and other road users. Ensuring that operators carry liability coverage will help protect all parties in the event of an accident. This measure integrates mopeds into the existing insurance framework for motorcycles and motor scooters, mandating liability insurance, setting coverage requirements, and establishing penalties for noncompliance.

Your Committee notes concerns raised in testimony regarding the financial burden this measure would put on moped operators, who are typically younger adults who use mopeds as an affordable means of transportation and often do not yet have the financial stability to afford additional costs. Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider any unintended financial consequences this measure would have on certain moped operators.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making conforming amendments to motor vehicle insurance laws to avoid any conflict in no-fault insurance laws;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 220, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 220, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 381 Transportation on H.B. No. 229

The purpose of this measure is to establish a statewide speed restriction for motor vehicles with three or more axles or motor vehicles weighing more than ten thousand pounds.

Your Committee did not receive any written testimony on this measure.

Your Committee finds that large vehicles, particularly those with three or more axles or weighing over ten thousand pounds, pose a unique risk to road safety due to their size and the difficulty they present in maneuvering at high speeds. Your Committee further finds that data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration shows a two percent increase in fatalities and a 3.7 percent increase in injuries from crashes involving large trucks between 2021 and 2022. This measure establishes appropriate speed limits for such vehicles, ensuring that they operate within a safe range that reduces the likelihood of accidents and enhances overall traffic flow and safety.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Establishing exemptions from this measure under certain circumstances;
- (2) Establishing a minimum fine of \$150 for a first offense and a maximum fine of \$350 for a subsequent offense within a two-year period;
- (3) Specifying that this measure applies only to a county with a population of five hundred thousand or more and authorizing a county with a population of less than five hundred thousand to adopt an ordinance adopting the provisions of this measure;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 229, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 229, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 382 Transportation on H.B. No. 230

The purpose of this measure is to require police officers to send a carbon copy of a citation to the registered owner of a vehicle within a certain time frame after the citation is issued.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Matson Navigation Company, Inc; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Police Department.

Your Committee finds that timely notification of traffic violations to vehicle owners is critical for ensuring accountability and proper citation processing. However, existing procedures do not consistently specify deadlines for mailing citations in all cases, potentially causing delays in notifying registered vehicle owners. This measure clarifies and standardizes the timeframes for sending citations by mail, improving the efficiency and effectiveness of traffic law enforcement.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the carbon copy of the citation shall be sent by certified or registered mail with a return receipt postmarked within five business days of the time of the incident;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 230, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 230, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 383 Transportation on H.B. No. 102

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the issuance of a certificate of inspection for a moped or motor vehicle that has been altered, installed, or otherwise modified in any way that will noticeably increase the noise emitted by the motor vehicle or moped above that emitted by the motor vehicle or moped as equipped from the factory.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Citizens Against Noise and six individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from ten individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Transportation and Motorcycle Industry Council.

Your Committee finds that excessive noise from modified vehicle and moped mufflers has become a growing nuisance, negatively affecting the quality of life in Hawaii's communities. This measure addresses altered or modified mufflers that noticeably increase noise, thereby promoting quieter and safer roadways.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Establishing an exception for motorcycles and mopeds that do not exceed certain federal regulations;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 102, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 102, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 384 Transportation on H.B. No. 54

The purpose of this measure is to increase the penalty for a third or subsequent offense, within five years, of excessive speeding to a class C felony and that the vehicle be subject to forfeiture.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; Honolulu Police Department; and Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender.

Your Committee finds that excessive speeding presents a significant threat to public safety, contributing to severe accidents, injuries, and fatalities on Hawaii's roads. Your Committee further finds that a 2011 study conducted by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety found that the average risk of death for a pedestrian reaches fifty percent at an impact speed of forty-two miles per hour, seventy-five percent at fifty miles per hour, and ninety percent at an impact speed of fifty-eight miles per hour. These alarming statistics do not consider age and fatality rates would be higher for the most vulnerable populations. By enhancing penalties for repeat offenders to felony offenses, this measure aims to deter dangerous driving behaviors and promote greater accountability among motorists.

Your Committee notes the concerns raised in written testimony from the Office of the Public Defender regarding the punishment on a non-violent traffic offense that this measure would impose. Your Committee acknowledges these concerns and respectfully asks your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, should it deliberate on this measure, to work with the Office of the Public Defender and other stakeholders in ensuring a fair and just resolution.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring as part of sentencing that a person be ordered to report to an appropriate law enforcement agency or governmental agency for fingerprinting;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 54, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 54, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Grandinetti, Evslin). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 385 Transportation on H.B. No. 667

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Transportation or appropriate county department when disposing of a deceased cat or dog from a public roadway to scan the animal for a microchip, record certain information, and report that information to the appropriate county animal services or animal service contractors.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Hawaiian Humane Society; Pacific Pet Alliance; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that, despite mandatory microchipping for cats and dogs in Hawaii, state and county agencies do not routinely scan deceased animals collected from public roadways, leaving pet owners unaware if their lost pets have been deceased. This measure will provide concerned pet owners with closure if their missing pet is found deceased by state and county agencies.

Your Committee notes that the Department of Transportation has already acquired the microchip scanners that would have been required under this measure and thus no longer would require an appropriation for such purchase.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Naming the measure the "Mila Microchip Identification Act";
- (2) Amending the purpose section;

- (3) Requiring certain county agencies to collaborate with the Department of Transportation in utilizing the Department's microchip scanners;
- (4) Deleting the unspecified appropriation for the purchase of microchip scanners;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 667, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 667, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 386 Transportation on H.B. No. 670

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend the existing Electric Bicycle and Moped Rebate Program to further encourage the purchase and use of adaptive electric bicycles, electric bicycles, electric mopeds, and other electric mobility devices; and
- (2) Update the definitions of "electric mobility device" and "electric bicycle" to align with federal and state policies and programs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Hawai'i Bicycling League; and Ulupono Initiative.

Your Committee finds that electric bicycles, electric mopeds, and other electric mobility devices offer a more affordable, environmentally friendly alternative to gas-powered vehicles. Your Committee believes that enhancing the electric mobility device rebate program by increasing the rebate amount and expanding eligibility will further alleviate transportation costs and foster the adoption of more sustainable transportation options for residents.

While your Committee acknowledges the good faith intent of this measure, your Committee realizes that this measure will require significant funding during a time of uncertainty of federal funds and its impact on the State's budget. Your Committee, however, believes that there is merit in advancing this measure to continue the discussion.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the definitions of "electric bicycle" and "electric micro-mobility device";
- (2) Amending the class 3 classification of an electric bicycle by requiring it to be equipped with a speedometer;
- (3) Defining "high-speed electric device";
- (4) Changing all dollar amounts to unspecified amounts;
- (5) Deleting language that would have authorized the Department of Transportation to establish a retailer application portal and to provide rebates directly at the point of sale;
- (6) Repealing language that prohibited a third-party administrator from expending a ten percent of the amounts appropriated for the rebate program for administration, promotion, and reporting of the rebate program;
- (7) Specifying that any modification or alteration to an electric bicycle or electric micro-mobility device after purchase will result in the disqualification of the rebate and requiring the recipient to repay the rebate received;
- (8) Requiring the Department of Transportation to establish a process to verify and enforce if a modification or alteration was made after purchase;
- (9) Appropriating unspecified amounts into and out of the Electric Mobility Subaccount in the Highway Development Special Fund;
- (10) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (11) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to take into consideration the suggested amendments made by the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization and Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice in their testimony.

Your Committee also respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the following amounts:

- (1) \$750 for an initial rebate under the program and an additional assistance rebate of \$750, under certain circumstances;
- (2) \$1,500 in total amount of rebates an individual can receive in each fiscal year;
- (3) \$10,000 in total amount of rebates a non-profit organization can receive in each fiscal year;
- (4) \$2,000,000 in total rebates the Department of Transportation can issue in each fiscal year; and
- (5) \$500,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$700,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 out of the Electric Mobility Subaccount in the Highway Development Special Fund for the rebate program.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 670, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 670, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 387 Transportation on H.B. No. 184

The purpose of this measure is to require operators of low-speed electronic bicycles to possess a valid driver's license, instruction permit, or provisional license.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Kauai Path, Inc.; Hawai'i Bicycling League; PeopleForBikes Coalition; Get Fit Kauai; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that it is essential for laws governing electric bicycles to remain current in order to address the rapid advancements in technology and the growing presence of electric bicycles on the streets. Your Committee further finds that the existing definition of a low-speed electric bicycle no longer encompasses the various types of electric bicycles used across the State. Outdated regulations can lead to confusion, safety concerns, and inconsistent enforcement. Your Committee believes that updating electric bicycle laws will ensure clearer guidelines and promote a safer environment for all road users.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Defining "electric bicycle" and its classes in place of "low-speed electric bicycle", as well as defining "high-speed electric device";
- (2) Amending the definition of "bicycle";
- (3) Prohibiting a person under the age of fifteen from operating a class 3 electric bicycle;
- (4) Prohibiting a person from operating a class 3 electric bicycle unless they satisfy certain requirements;
- (5) Authorizing any individual to operate a class 1 electric bicycle and class 2 electric bicycle;
- (6) Specifying that the requirements of this measure apply only to a county with a population of five hundred thousand or more;
- (7) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 184, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 184, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 388 Transportation on H.B. No. 435

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend the definition of "electric bicycles";
- (2) Establish additional regulations for the registration and use of electric bicycles; and
- (3) Increase the minimum age to operate an electric bicycle.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Hawai'i Bicycling League; and six individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the increasing use of electric bicycles throughout the State has led to rising concerns over safety on public roads and bike paths, as the unique characteristics of electric bicycles, such as their speed and motorized assistance, can pose risks to riders, pedestrians, and other road users. Existing laws do not fully address the potential hazards associated with electric bicycles. This measure will provide clear and comprehensive regulations for operation, safety, and registration of electric bicycles, ensuring safer use and greater public awareness.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have subjected an electric bicycle or a person operating an electric bicycle to the provisions of the traffic code relating to financial responsibility, driver's licenses, certificates of title, off-highway vehicles, and license plates;
- (2) Defining "electric micro mobility device" and requiring the same regulations as electric foot scooters to apply to electric micro mobility devices;
- (3) Specifying that no person under the age of fifteen shall operate a class 3 electric bicycle and explicitly allowing any individual to operate a class 1 electric bicycle or class 2 electric bicycle;
- (4) Increasing the age limit from sixteen years old to eighteen years old for those who are required to wear a helmet when operating a bicycle;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 435, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 435, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 389 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 968

The purpose of this measure is to require and appropriate funds for the Department of Agriculture to establish a Healthy Soils Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; 350Hawaii.org; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; Citizens' Climate Lobby Hawai'i; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's agricultural sustainability and environmental resilience depend on healthy soils. Your Committee further finds that investing in healthy soils is a critical step toward ensuring Hawaii's farms remain productive for future generations while strengthening the local economy and food security. This measure establishes a Healthy Soils Program within the Department of Agriculture to assess and improve soil conditions statewide while providing education and technical assistance to farmers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$500,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 968, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 968, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 390 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 428

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for the Hawaii Farm to Families Program to fund food banks in the State to purchase, store, and transport fresh, Hawaii-grown or -produced food to food insecure communities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Hunger Action Network; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Foodbank; Maui Food Bank; Hawai'i Youth Food Council; Hana Farmers Market; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Waianae Coast Community Foundation; 350Hawaii.org; Ulupono Initiative; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; The Food Basket, Inc.; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Hawai'i Crop Improvement Association; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii faces a persistent food security crisis, with one in three households struggling to access consistent, nutritious food. The burden falls hardest on keiki, with nearly thirty percent of children living in food-insecure homes, leading to serious developmental and health consequences. Your Committee also finds that local farmers face unpredictable markets and distribution challenges, limiting their ability to expand production. By strengthening the link between local agriculture and food assistance programs, this measure establishes and funds the Hawaii Farm to Families Program, enabling food banks to purchase, store, and distribute locally grown food and fostering a resilient food system that nourishes communities, supports local agriculture, and reduces dependence on imports.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the contents of the reports submitted to the Legislature related to the activities of the Hawaii Farm to Families Program;
- (2) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$2,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 428, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 428, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 391 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 967

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Statewide Interagency Food Systems Coordination Team and the Interagency Food Systems Working Group within the Department of Agriculture; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the working group and certain positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Foodbank; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture and Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii remains committed to strengthening its local food system through sustainability initiatives, increased food production, and enhanced food security. Despite these efforts, nearly one-third of households still experience food insecurity and many local farmers continue to face regulatory and logistical challenges that hinder their ability to expand production and distribution. Addressing these issues requires interagency collaboration to streamline policies, improve procurement processes, and create better market access for local producers. By establishing a Statewide Interagency Food Systems Coordination Team and an Interagency Food Systems Working Group to develop a more resilient and equitable food system, this measure will support local farmers, improve food access, and promote long-term sustainability for Hawaii's communities.

Your Committee notes the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency's request for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) position to bolster their operational capacity and facilitate effective coordination among various state agencies involved in food systems management.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation and allocation to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Clarifying that the appropriated funds are allocated for the purpose of hiring appropriately skilled personnel to supplement the Department of Agriculture's staff to support the Statewide Interagency Food Systems Coordination Team and Interagency Food Systems Working Group;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of at least \$100,000 for the establishment and operation of the Interagency Food Systems Working Group.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 967, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 967, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 392 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 812

The purpose of this measure is to require a contract for the purchase of local produce having a value of more than \$250 to be for a term of at least five years.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union; and Hawai'i Food+ Policy. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education and State Procurement Office.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's farmers and ranchers face numerous challenges, including high operational costs, labor shortages, and market instability, which hinder their ability to expand production and invest in infrastructure. Additionally, short-term procurement contracts create further uncertainty, making it difficult for local producers to commit to long-term growth. This measure provides farmers with greater financial stability, promotes crop diversification and livestock expansion, and supports the State's goals of reducing reliance on imports and strengthening local agriculture.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Increasing the minimum contract value threshold from \$250 to \$25,000;
- (2) Authorizing, rather than requiring, the contracts for the purchase of local produce to be for a term of at least five years;
- (3) Inserting language that requires the contracts to include a price adjustment clause to increase or decrease the value;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 812, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 812, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 393 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 1187

The purpose of this measure is to phase in a ban on state departments and administratively attached agencies from purchasing imported flowers and lei.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Farm Bureau and Hawai'i Farmers Union. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the State Procurement Office.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's floriculture industry is a vital part of the State's agricultural sector, deeply rooted in cultural traditions and local identity. However, competition from imported flowers, high production costs, and market instability have made it difficult for many local growers to thrive. This measure phases in a ban on state departments and administratively attached agencies from purchasing imported flowers and lei, ensuring a stable market for Hawaii's farmers while promoting sustainability by reducing reliance on imports.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1187, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1187, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 394 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 110

The purpose of this measure is to modify certain benchmark goals and timelines for the Department of Education to purchase a certain amount of fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; and Hawaii Cattlemen's Council. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that supporting local agriculture and strengthening Hawaii's food systems are critical to the State's economic resilience, sustainability, and public health. While existing laws set procurement benchmarks for various state agencies, inconsistencies in these targets create challenges for state agencies and local farmers trying to scale production. Specifically, the programmatic goal for the Department of Education to locally source at least thirty percent of food served in public schools by 2030 is higher than other state departments. Therefore, this measure resolves discrepancies between the Department of Education's locally sourced food benchmarks and those of other state agencies, ensuring a more consistent and effective implementation of Hawaii's food sustainability goals.

Your Committee notes the concerns that the shifting of the term "produce" to "food" in Act 144, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, may have inadvertently broadened the inclusion of products that do not substantially benefit the local agricultural landscape. Additionally, your Committee notes that updating reporting requirements for the Department of Education to track the status of progress toward local procurement goals more accurately is essential.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 110, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 395 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 328

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Education to authorize and facilitate complex areas or individual department schools to form their own Farm to School Meal Programs; and

- (2) Authorize the Department of Education to establish a plant-based meal program to provide a plant-based meal as an option under the school meals program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Department of Agriculture of the County of Maui; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Greenpeace Hawaii; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; 350Hawaii.org; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Climate Future Forum; Hawaiian Islands Republican Women; Lou's Quality Home Health Care Services, LLC; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education and Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council.

Your Committee finds that progress toward the goal of sourcing thirty percent of school meal ingredients locally by 2030 has been slow, limiting the availability of fresh, nutritious food for students while missing an opportunity to strengthen Hawaii's agricultural economy. Empowering individual schools and complex areas to form their own farm-to-school partnerships will create more regional opportunities for farmers, reducing transportation costs and increasing access to fresh produce. Additionally, offering plant-based meal options provides students with healthier alternatives while supporting sustainability efforts and expanding demand for local agriculture. This measure ensures that Hawaii's schools serve meals that nourish students while fostering a resilient, community-based food system that benefits keiki and local farmers.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 328, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 396 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 497

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Hawaii Child Nutrition Programs as an agency in the Department of Agriculture; and
- (2) Fund grant-based programs to be administered through the Hawaii Child Nutrition Programs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Farm Link Hawai'i; Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education and Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that the Hawaii Child Nutrition Programs plays a vital role in linking federal nutrition services with local school meal programs, ensuring compliance with federal requirements while supporting food access for students. As the Department of Education works toward its "30 by 30" goal—sourcing at least thirty percent of school meal ingredients locally by 2030—additional resources and staffing are needed to strengthen farm-to-school connections. This measure better aligns the Hawaii Child Nutrition Programs' mission with the State's broader agricultural goals and provides funding for grant-based programs, further supporting Hawaii's commitment to improving nutrition, food security, and local agricultural sustainability.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 497, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 497, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 397 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 773

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for grant specialist positions to assist farmers and ranchers in meeting the requirements to receive grants offered by the United States Department of Agriculture, State, counties, or private entities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Local Food Coalition; Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that many of Hawaii's farmers and ranchers struggle to secure the financial support needed to grow and sustain their businesses. While grants from the United States Department of Agriculture, State, counties, and private entities offer valuable funding opportunities, the complex application processes can deter farmers from applying. Without specialized knowledge in grant writing, many farmers and ranchers miss out on critical resources that could strengthen the local agricultural industry. This measure appropriates funds to establish grant specialist positions within the Department of Agriculture to assist farmers and ranchers in navigating the application process, securing funding, and fulfilling grant requirements. By providing this support, the State can help to ensure that Hawaii's agricultural businesses thrive and contribute to food security and economic resilience.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the number of full-time equivalent grant specialist positions to an unspecified number;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$200,000 for two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) grant specialist positions with the Department of Agriculture.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 773, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 773, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 398 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 776

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Hawaii Agricultural Transportation Assistance Program, to consist of a reimbursement program and grant program, to assist certain farmers and livestock producers with transportation costs for agricultural products, inputs, supplies, and production and distribution of agricultural commodities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Watanabe Floral, Inc.; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Molokai Farm Bureau; and Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's geographic isolation and inter-island transport limitations create significant challenges for farmers, ranchers, floriculturists, and food producers, particularly due to high transportation costs. Additionally, shipping expenses impact the import of essential agricultural supplies and the export of locally grown products, making it difficult for local producers to compete in broader markets. By establishing the Hawaii Agricultural Transportation Assistance Program, this measure will improve market access, enhance food security, and promote a more sustainable and resilient agricultural economy for Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the definition of "geographically disadvantaged farmer or livestock producer";
- (2) Changing the maximum reimbursement amount to an unspecified amount;
- (3) Include food hubs as an entity eligible to receive a grant under the Agricultural Transportation Grant Program;
- (4) Inserting language that appropriates an unspecified sum of funds into and out of the Hawaii Agricultural Transportation Assistance Special Fund;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider a maximum reimbursement amount of \$8,000 for a single applicant in a single year who participates in the Agricultural Transportation Reimbursement Program.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 776, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 776, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 399 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 782

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a working group within the Department of Agriculture to review and make recommendations on amending or repealing unnecessary or obsolete laws pertaining to agriculture.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; and Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's agricultural industry faces significant challenges, including outdated regulations that may no longer align with modern farming practices. Many existing agricultural laws were established decades ago and could be hindering innovation, efficiency, and the State's goal of increasing local food production. This measure establishes a working group within the Department of Agriculture to review and recommend amendments or repeals of unnecessary or obsolete laws that may be impeding agricultural growth. By streamlining regulatory processes and ensuring policies remain relevant, this measure also supports a more resilient and sustainable agricultural sector.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding a representative from the Hawaii Farmers Union to the working group;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$100,000 for the working group.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 782, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 782, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 400 Higher Education on H.B. No. 1168

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii to issue revenue bonds and appropriate funds out of the revenue bond proceeds to finance qualifying priority capital improvement projects of the University of Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that allowing the University of Hawaii to issue revenue bonds will help address the University's capital facility needs, including new construction, modernization, and its major repair and maintenance backlog.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the maximum revenue bond issuance and appropriation to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the maximum revenue bond issuance and appropriation amount of \$8,000,000 to finance qualifying priority capital improvement projects of the University of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1168, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1168, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11; Ayes with Reservations (Muraoka). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 401 Higher Education on H.B. No. 563

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the University of Hawaii at Manoa Institute for Astronomy to support the University's space science and engineering initiative.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce; Maunakea Scholars; Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce; Maunakea Observatories; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that there is a need in the State for long-term science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) workforce development programs to foster a sustainable and economically diverse base for advanced-technology-sector companies. Your Committee further finds that investing funds into the University of Hawaii at Manoa Institute for Astronomy's space science and engineering initiative will grow the pool of Hawaii's workforce in the STEM field and is critical for the continued growth and success of the State's economy and its people.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the amounts appropriated and positions to be funded to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to appropriate an amount of \$650,000, to be allocated as follows:

- (1) \$400,000 for salaries and fringe benefits for the following positions:
 - (A) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) University of Hawaii space science and engineering initiative workforce development program manager;
 - (B) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) Maunakea Scholars program coordinator; and
 - (C) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) administrative clerk for the University of Hawaii space science and engineering initiative workforce development program; and
- (2) \$250,000 for office equipment and supplies, operational costs, and internship stipends for high school and college students.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 563, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 563, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 402 Higher Education on H.B. No. 617

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the establishment of a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program at the University of Hawaii Maui College.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawai'i State Center for Nursing; Hawai'i-American Nurses Association; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; and nine individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from University of Hawai'i System and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State faces a growing nursing workforce shortage. Your Committee further finds that Maui County is the largest county in the State without a college or university Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program. Your Committee believes that offering a Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program at the University of Hawaii Maui College will increase the supply of nursing graduates, reduce the nursing workforce shortage, and allow Maui nursing students to remain on Maui during their entire course of study.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the following appropriation amounts:

- (1) \$100,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$60,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for prerequisite courses by students newly enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program at the University of Hawaii Maui College;
- (2) \$90,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$60,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for additional personnel associated with establishment of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program at the University of Hawaii Maui College;
- (3) \$60,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and fiscal year 2026-2027 for supplies, equipment, and simulation and laboratory upgrades associated with establishment of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program at the University of Hawaii Maui College; and
- (4) \$250,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for instructional costs associated with providing a third year of nursing courses following the establishment of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program at the University of Hawaii Maui College.

Your Committee further requests your Committee on Finance to consider including the appropriations contained in this measure in the base budget of the University of Hawaii through the state budget.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 617, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 617, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kila).

SCRep. 403 Higher Education on H.B. No. 1171

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Board of Regents to use funds from the University of Hawaii Tuition and Fees Special Fund for student aid in direct response to an emergency or disaster, as declared by the Governor.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System and University of Hawai'i Student Caucus.

Your Committee finds that this measure will enable the University of Hawaii to offer financial support to students through funding from the University of Hawaii Tuition and Fees Special Fund during disaster situations. Your Committee further finds that the University's ability to provide disaster relief funding will enhance student retention and improve overall student success.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1171, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1171, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Evslin, Muraoka).

SCRep. 404 Higher Education on H.B. No. 1170

The purpose of this measure is to require the University of Hawaii to grant the resident tuition fee for enrollment at any University of Hawaii campus to individuals who have graduated from a Hawaii high school and are enrolling in an undergraduate degree program, under certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; University of Hawai'i System; and University of Hawai'i Student Caucus.

Your Committee finds that securing the resident tuition fee for Hawaii high school graduates will increase accessibility for students who are deterred from seeking an undergraduate degree due to perceived high cost and will provide a competitive choice for students considering out-of-state options. This measure will also help some local graduating students or recent graduates who may, for a variety of reasons, meet the current statutory requirements for providing evidence of bona fide residency in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1170, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1170, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Evslin, Muraoka).

SCRep. 405 Higher Education on H.B. No. 843

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds:

- (1) For critical repairs, maintenance, demolition, design, and construction for facilities of the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience at the University of Hawaii at Manoa; and
- (2) To establish positions within the University of Hawaii for the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; MetroGrow Hawaii; and Maui County Farm Bureau.

Your Committee finds that in the past twenty years, the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience (CTAHR) at the University of Hawaii at Manoa has lost personnel and struggled with deteriorating facilities and infrastructure. Without the proper personnel, CTAHR will be unable to support its agricultural research and extension stations. Your Committee further finds that many of CTAHR's facilities are decades old, with some dating back to the early- to mid-1900s, and most facilities have only received minimal repairs over the years. This measure will ensure that CTAHR has the resources necessary to obtain staffing positions and repair its facilities so it can continue its vital work in supporting the State through its programs and initiatives.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the amounts to be appropriated and number of positions to be funded to unspecified amounts; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider appropriating the following amounts:

- (1) \$11,000,000 for critical repairs, maintenance, demolition, design, and construction for facilities of CTAHR, to be expended as follows:
 - (A) \$5,000,000 for the Waimanalo research station on Oahu; and
 - (B) \$6,000,000 for the Magoon research station on Oahu; and

- (2) \$2,083,334 to establish eight full-time equivalent agricultural technician positions, four full-time equivalent community coordinator positions, and eight full-time equivalent administrative professional technical positions within CTAHR.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 843, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 843, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Evslin, Muraoka).

SCRep. 406 Higher Education on H.B. No. 842

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the University of Hawaii at Manoa to establish three additional permanent mental health practitioner positions within the Division of Student Success' Counseling and Student Development Center.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa; Academic Labor United; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Counseling and Student Development Center at the University of Hawaii at Manoa is a critical resource providing mental health support to its students. However, the Center's staffing levels remain critically low. This measure will provide funding for additional full-time, permanent mental health professionals to meet the mental health needs of university students.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the number of positions to be funded to an unspecified number; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 842, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 842, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Evslin, Muraoka).

SCRep. 407 Higher Education on H.B. No. 840

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the program and operations of athletics departments of the University of Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa and University of Hawai'i at Hilo.

Your Committee finds that the funds appropriated by this measure will support student-athletes and athletic programs of the University of Hawaii System, including for ongoing costs related to nutrition programs, athletic training services, recruitment, and travel.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the amounts appropriated and the number of positions to be funded to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$8,519,341 for the program and operations of the athletics departments at the University of Hawaii, to be allocated as follows:

- (1) \$3,200,000 for each fiscal year to the University of Hawaii at Manoa athletics department;
- (2) \$800,000 for each fiscal year to the University of Hawaii at Hilo athletics department; and
- (3) \$4,519,341 for each fiscal year to establish forty-three temporary full-time equivalent (43.0 FTE) positions at the University of Hawaii at Manoa athletics department and provide additional support.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 840, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 840, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Evslin, Muraoka).

SCRep. 408 Higher Education on H.B. No. 542

The purpose of this measure is to expand and appropriate funds for the Hawaii Promise Program to provide scholarships to qualified students enrolled at any University of Hawaii campus, rather than just community college campuses.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; University of Hawaii Professional Assembly; University of Hawai'i Student Caucus; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the cost of attendance continues to be a significant barrier for many of the State's residents in pursuing higher education. In response, the University of Hawaii implemented the Hawaii Promise Program to provide need-based awards intended to be applied toward the unmet need of qualified students enrolled at any community college campus of the University of Hawaii. This measure will expand the Hawaii Promise Program to provide scholarships for the unmet needs of qualified undergraduate students enrolled at any four-year University of Hawaii campus, thereby increasing the number of students who enroll and earn degrees to prepare them for success in the workforce and their communities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 542, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 542, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Evslin, Muraoka).

SCRep. 409 Housing on H.B. No. 1093

The purpose of this measure is to clarify the Hawaii Public Housing Authority's powers relating to housing projects.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

Your Committee finds that in recent years, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development has encouraged public housing authorities to shift their focus toward creating financially viable and socially stable, mixed-income communities. This measure will allow the Hawaii Public Housing Authority to achieve its long-term goals of deconcentrating poverty and redeveloping existing public housing projects into mixed-income communities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1093, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1093, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 410 Housing on H.B. No. 1097

The purpose of this measure is to reduce the period of time the Hawaii Public Housing Authority is required to store the unclaimed property of a tenant evicted from public housing from thirty to fourteen days.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

Your Committee finds that when a Hawaii Public Housing Authority tenant is evicted, oftentimes the Authority is forced to store their belongings. In most circumstances, the Authority does not have dedicated storage facilities where the evicted tenant's property can be stored, so the property must be stored in the vacated unit, which delays repair work and placement of a new family into the unit. This measure enables the Authority to efficiently prepare and turn over vacant units so more individuals and families can secure stable housing.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1097, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1097, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 411 Housing on H.B. No. 1094

The purpose of this measure is to provide the Hawaii Public Housing Authority with greater ability to dispose of abandoned or seized property in and around federal public housing projects.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii Public Housing Authority federal public housing projects do not have on-site storage facilities, which make it challenging to retain abandoned or seized property for extended periods. This measure establishes clear procedures for the management of abandoned or seized property in federal public housing projects similar to the procedures already in place for State public housing projects, which will create uniformity in the Authority's policies while improving operational efficiencies and reducing the average vacancy period of units.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1094, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1094, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 412 Housing on H.B. No. 199

The purpose of this measure is to expressly provide conditions under which all parcels under the jurisdiction of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority and authority offices and facilities may be closed to the public so that trespassing violations may be prosecuted as criminal trespass in the second degree.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority and one individual.

Your Committee finds that incidents arise on Hawaii Public Housing Authority property due to the presence of uninvited individuals. This measure clarifies the conditions under which Hawaii Public Housing Authority properties may be closed to the public to protect the well-being of its tenants and staff and provide a safer living environment for public housing tenants and the surrounding community.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 199, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 199, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 413 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 1349

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Human Services to authorize Medicaid coverage through the Children's Health Insurance Program to income-qualified pregnant persons and children regardless of immigration status.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Indivisible Hawai'i; American Association of University Women of Hawaii; The Legal Clinic; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; The American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology Hawai'i Section; Save Medicaid Hawaii; Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights; AlohaCare; Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights; Roots Reborn Maui; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that access to high-quality, affordable health care is essential for public health, yet many individuals in Hawaii are denied Medicaid and other health coverage due to their immigration status. Your Committee further finds that lack of prenatal care significantly increases the risk of preterm birth and neonatal death, placing parents and infants in life-threatening situations. Currently, twenty-four states and the District of Columbia provide Medicaid coverage to all income-qualified pregnant residents regardless of immigration status, in recognition of the long-term health and economic benefits this coverage provides. This measure appropriates funds to the Department of Human Services to expand Medicaid coverage through the Children's Health Insurance Program, ensuring that income-qualified pregnant individuals and children have access to essential care and improving health outcomes for Hawaii's families.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the costs, as estimated by the Department of Human Services, to support health insurance coverage under program ID HMS401, as proposed by this measure, as follows:

- (1) \$744,000 for pregnant persons;
- (2) \$620,000 for pregnant persons, including ten months post-partum care; and
- (3) \$2,976,000 for children under the Health Services Initiative option.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1349, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1349, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 2 (Alcos, Garcia). Excused, none.

SCRep. 414 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 324

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Baby Bonds Working Group to develop a plan for the creation of a baby bonds program for the State to address intergenerational poverty and wealth inequality in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that intergenerational poverty undermines economic and social well-being, making it difficult for families to achieve financial stability, particularly in Hawaii, where the high cost of living creates significant barriers. Your Committee further finds that Connecticut has a successful Baby Bonds Program, which invests in children born into poverty to support future financial independence. By establishing a working group that examines matched savings opportunities, this measure aims to develop a plan for initiatives that would help break cycles of poverty, promote wealth-building opportunities, and create long-term economic growth for future generations in the State.

Your Committee notes that the State does have existing savings programs, including the individual development account program and HI529-Hawaii's College Savings Program. Your Committee therefore finds that it would be beneficial to expand the working group's focus to include strategies to improve participation or utilization of existing asset-building programs.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the name of the working group to the "Wealth Building Working Group";
- (2) Expanding the scope of the working group to include reviewing other existing asset-building programs;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 324, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 324, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, none.

SCRep. 415 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 705

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a temporary Medi-Medi Project within the Hawaii State Health Insurance Assistance Program to assist older adults, Medicare beneficiaries, individuals with disabilities, and other underserved populations who may qualify for various low-income subsidy programs to gain access to their benefits;
- (2) Require the Executive Office on Aging to submit annual reports to the Legislature on the Medi-Medi Project; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for the Hawaii State Health Insurance Assistance Program, including for staff and operating expenses.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; AARP Hawai'i; Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that many low-income individuals in Hawaii qualify for subsidy programs, including Medicare, Medicaid, and Medicare savings programs such as Medicare Part D Extra Help, which reduce out-of-pocket medical and prescription drug costs. However, barriers such as language access, lack of awareness, and difficulty navigating the application process prevent many from receiving these essential benefits. To address these challenges, this measure establishes the temporary Medi-Medi Project within the Hawaii State Health Insurance Assistance Program to assist underserved populations in accessing and maintaining their health benefits, ensuring they receive the support they need.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$100,000 for only fiscal year 2025-2026 for the Hawaii State Health Insurance Assistance Program, as the Program should be self-sufficient after the first fiscal year.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 705, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 705, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 416 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 327

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Office of the Governor for a state childcare facility for state employees and their families.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services and Executive Office on Early Learning.

Your Committee finds that providing childcare services for public employees can strengthen workforce development by attracting a broader talent pool, improving retention, and increasing productivity by reducing absenteeism. Access to reliable childcare also enhances economic security for families and supports overall community well-being. This measure would provide a critical resource for state employees, allowing many of them to balance work and family responsibilities more effectively.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 327, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 327, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 417 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 565

The purpose of this measure is to require, beginning October 1, 2025, mortuaries, cemeteries, and pre-need funeral authorities to include in contracts for funeral services with cremation a provision that requires notice if precious metals are recovered after the cremation process and written consent before the sale or recycling of the precious metals.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Kokua Council; AARP Hawai'i; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Regulated Industries Complaints Office, Office of Consumer Protection, and Division of Professional Vocational Licensing Cemetery and Funeral Trusts Program of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committee finds that cremation is the process that converts human remains to ashes and mineral fragments through combustion and oxidation. Your Committee further finds that decedents may have metals on or in their bodies that survive the cremation process, including titanium implants. Typically, these metals are disposed by the crematory through various means, including donation or sale to a medical recycling company, with the disposition of the proceeds determined by the crematory. This measure provides the family of the decedent with the option for retaining the metals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the new requirements for a contract that includes cremation apply to contracts entered into on or after October 1, 2025;
- (2) Deleting language that applied the contract requirements to cemetery authorities since cemetery authorities are not permitted to enter into funeral service contracts;
- (3) Deleting the requirement that written consent be obtained by the purchaser before the sale or recycling of any recovered precious metals;

- (4) Specifying that the contract must include a disclosure that after the receipt of the written notice, the purchaser has thirty days to claim the precious metals recovered, after which the precious metals may be sold or recycled by the mortuary or pre-need funeral authority;
- (5) Specifying that the failure of a mortuary or pre-need funeral authority to include the required provision and disclosure shall be a violation;
- (6) Clarifying the definition of "precious metals";
- (7) Deleting language that required mortuaries, cemetery authorities, and pre-need funeral authorities to provide to purchasers of contracts entered into before October 1, 2025, an addendum with the contract requirements being enacted by this measure;
- (8) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (9) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 565, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 565, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Lowen).

SCRep. 418 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 979

The purpose of this measure is to require landlords, lessors, or plaintiffs in a summary possession action to submit a general excise tax license in good standing as a condition to the issuance of a writ of possession.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary; Department of Taxation; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the revenue generated from the leasing of real property is subject to the general excise tax. Your Committee further finds that, while residential rental properties serve a valuable role of providing housing, landlords should also fulfill their tax obligations. This measure imposes a requirement for the landlord to provide proof of compliance with the landlord's general tax obligations to prior to availing the landlord with the remedy of summary possession.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee notes that the Judiciary, in its written testimony to your Committee, raised concerns that the measure would require the Judiciary to develop system modifications to its existing case management system to account for the general excise tax license information. As such, the Judiciary requested that the measure be effective no sooner than July 1, 2026, to allow for these necessary systems modifications.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 979, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 979, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Lowen).

SCRep. 419 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 1053

The purpose of this measure is to clarify the ability of a condominium association to borrow from or reallocate from its replacement reserves fund to be used toward operating expenses if repaid within one year.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Real Estate Commission and Palehua Townhouse Association. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Legislative Action Committee of the Community Associations Institute; Hawaii Council of Community Associations; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from seven individuals.

Your Committee finds that, due to issues in the global insurance industry and recent increases in catastrophic weather events around the world, there have been unprecedented insurance premium rate increases for condominium associations. Condominium associations have been unable to fund these significant increases, which in turn has placed an unbearable and unforeseeable financial burden on condominium unit owners to cover these last-minute costs. This measure allows a condominium association to borrow and subsequently repay from its reserve fund account to assist in paying for operating expenses within the condominium association's budget.

Your Committee notes that a concern was raised by the Community Associations Institute, in its written testimony before your Committee, that the proposed spending limits in this measure based on percentages would be highly difficult to enforce. This is a consequence of the vast majority of condominium associations (approximately more than ninety-five percent) adopting reserve studies using the cash flow funding method, which excludes percentages under the Pooling Method of preparation. Under the cash flow funding method, a condominium association's reserve balance is projected over a thirty-year period, accounting for income and expenses, and is deemed fully funded if the ending balance is a positive balance. As such, any determination of percentages is inconsistent with that methodology. Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to give due consideration to this concern.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that a violation of the provisions governing the authorization for a condominium association to borrow or reallocate replacement reserves funds is a violation of the member's fiscal duty;
- (2) Specifying that every authorized borrowing or reallocation of replacement reserves funds is to be restored before any additional borrowing or reallocation, if the replacement reserves are less than one hundred percent of the estimated replacement reserves;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1053, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1053, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto, Tam). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Lowen).

SCRep. 420 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 1277

The purpose of this measure is to limit the value of daily transactions through a digital financial asset transaction kiosk to a maximum of \$2,000 per day.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from AARP Hawai'i and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from CoinFlip and Bitcoin Depot.

Your Committee finds that a digital financial asset transaction kiosk is a type of electronic kiosk where customers can buy and sell digital financial assets, or cryptocurrencies, using cash, credit cards, or bank transfer. While the operators of these kiosks are not subject to any state oversight or regulation in their business practices, federal law does require operators to comply with laws designed to combat money laundering and terrorist financing. Yet, consumers have no protections designed to protect their financial interests when transacting at these kiosks.

Your Committee further finds that, while these kiosks enable people to make legitimate financial transactions every day, these kiosks are also increasingly being used in scams targeting older adults. In these scams, victims are convinced to use the kiosks to transfer cryptocurrencies to a wallet address controlled by the scammer. This measure imposes a daily transaction limit to prevent large sums of money from being withdrawn or deposited in a single day.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Lowering the daily limit imposed by this measure from \$2,000 to \$1,000; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1277, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1277, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, 2 (Kong, Lowen).

SCRep. 421 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 939

The purpose of this measure is to establish a liquor tax rate for low alcohol by volume spirits beverages.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Maui Wine, Ltd.; Lanikai Brewing Co.; Kauai Beer Company; Kaua'i Island Brewing Co.; Maui Brewing Co.; Johnson Brothers of Hawaii, Inc.; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Beer Institute; Wine Institute; and Hawai'i Alcohol Policy Alliance. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that spirits based low-proof, ready-to-drink beverages are taxed at a rate of \$5.98 a gallon, or more than six times higher than malt beverages and beer with similar alcohol by volume. This dramatic difference in the taxation of products with similar alcohol content creates an unfair marketplace. This measure adjusts the tax rate for low-proof spirits-based beverages to be comparable to other low-proof beverages.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Increasing the tax rate proposed for low alcohol by volume spirits beverages, from 85 cents to 93 cents per wine gallon;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Inserting a three-year sunset date of December 31, 2028.

Your Committee notes that the Department of Taxation, in its written testimony before your Committee, requested that the new tax proposed by this measure begin on January 1, 2026, to allow the Department sufficient time to implement the measure's provisions.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 939, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 939, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Lowen).

SCRep. 422 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 1052

The purpose of this measure is to provide clear authorization and guidance for the Public Utilities Commission to implement and manage, through the Universal Service Program, the provision of essential telecommunications services for individuals with print disabilities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of Human Services; Public Utilities Commission; Hawaii State Council on Development Disabilities; and National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that Act 225, Session Laws of Hawaii 1995, established the Universal Service Program, the purpose of which, in part, is to help customers with disabilities access and maintain a basic set of essential telecommunications services as determined by the Public Utilities Commission. Despite existing law requiring telecommunications carriers to contribute to the Program, the Program is currently inactive with no funds available. Furthermore, there is a lack of clear legislative authority for the Public Utilities Commission to develop a program addressing print disabilities. This measure resolves these issues by adding language to clearly authorize the Public Utilities Commission to develop a program for persons with print disabilities and authorizing the use of funds for this purpose.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1052, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1052, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Lowen).

SCRep. 423 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 1049

The purpose of this measure is to make various amendments to the Money Transmitters Modernization Act to be more consistent with the Model Money Transmitters Modernization Act by:

- (1) Amending the definition of "permissible investments" to include certain receivables;
- (2) Correcting the required tangible net worth that must be maintained by a licensee and repealing language that specified the manner in which tangible net worth is to be calculated; and
- (3) Removing the refundable \$5,000 initial annual license fee and instead allowing a fee to be assessed after an application has been approved.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committee finds that the existing calculation for tangible net worth under the State's Money Transmitters Modernization Act is based on an older model law and does not comport with national standards. This measure will correct the existing calculation to ensure that licensees can operate and conduct their business in a safe and sound manner across the nation and in Hawaii.

Your Committee further finds that existing law requires an applicant for licensure as a money transmitter to pay a \$5,000 initial annual license fee with their application, which is then returned if the application is denied. This process is administratively burdensome and frustrating to an applicant. This measure therefore streamlines the process to only require the \$5,000 fee once an applicant's application has been approved.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1049, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1049, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Lowen).

SCRep. 424 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 1055

The purpose of this measure is to make an emergency appropriation for the Public Utilities Commission to procure services by consultants with technical expertise to assist with the efforts to strengthen the resilience and reliability of electric utility services in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Public Utilities Commission and Hawaiian Electric.

Your Committee finds that the devastating Maui wildfires on August 8, 2023, was one of the worst natural disasters in the State's history. Your Committee further finds that the Public Utilities Commission is the regulatory body with the oversight authority for strengthening critical infrastructure, mitigating risks, protecting utility customers, and ensuring robust recovery following extreme weather events.

In response to the Maui wildfires, the Public Utilities Commission will further efforts to strengthen the resilience and reliability of electric utility services in the State. To assist in this effort, the Public Utilities Commission needs consultants with specialized expertise to provide technical assessments, evaluations, and recommendations for mitigating storm-related power outages, restoring the grid, rebuilding infrastructure, and preparing for direct impacts of other natural disasters. This measure provides the Public Utilities Commission with the emergency funding to contract with consultant services to provide the needed expertise.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$700,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1055, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1055, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, 2 (Kong, Lowen).

SCRep. 425 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 106

The purpose of this measure is to clarify the process for unit owners and tenants to dispute assessments levied by condominium associations and ensure that there is due process when fines are imposed on individuals subject to condominium association enforcement actions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Legislative Action Committee of the Community Associations Institute; Hawaii First Realty LLC; Hawaiiana Management Company, Ltd.; and seven individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from ten individuals.

Your Committee finds that owners, tenants, and other persons who use condominium property are subject to the declarations and bylaws adopted by the condominium association and that those persons must strictly comply with the covenants, conditions, and restrictions set forth in the declaration, bylaws, and house rules. Your Committee further finds that the existing model of self-governance for condominium associations necessitates that condominium associations have mechanisms to enforce compliance. However, such mechanisms should also provide persons with notice and an opportunity to be heard. This measure ensures that unit owners and tenants are afforded a fair process to dispute fines levied by a condominium association.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the new statutory provision, which clarifies the process for unit owners and tenants to dispute fines imposed by condominium associations, controls over fine-related provisions in an association's declaration, bylaws, house rules, or regulations;

- (2) Specifying that a timely demand for mediation stays a condominium association's efforts to collect a contested assessment for one hundred twenty days, rather than sixty days;
- (3) Specifying that the Small Claims Division of the District Court has jurisdiction over all cases arising from a board of director's decision that is adverse to the unit owner or tenant relating to fines under the new statutory provision;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 106, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 106, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 426 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 1048

The purpose of this measure is to make clarifying amendments to the installment loans law, including:

- (1) Using defined terms consistently;
- (2) Requiring lenders to prorate fees on a daily basis;
- (3) Allowing lenders to charge a convenience fee for debit card payments;
- (4) Requiring paper receipts only for in-person or cash payments and removing the requirement that receipts not contain the consumer's name; and
- (5) Repealing the cool down period between loans.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the American Fintech Council.

Your Committee finds that the existing installment loan law allows lenders writing loan contracts to fully capture the maximum monthly maintenance fees even if the lender provides service for only a portion of the month. This measure will require lenders to prorate the monthly fees daily.

Your Committee further finds that the existing installment loan law requires a three-day waiting period between loans. The original intent for the three-day waiting period was so that borrowers would not be in a continuous cycle of debt by repaying the loan and borrowing again on the same day. However, unlike payday loans, which the installment loan law replaced, installment loans are gradually paid down through a series of payments. The repeal of the waiting period will allow consumers on the neighbor islands, which only have access to one or two lenders, to have more access to financial services.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion;
- (2) Inserting a three-year sunset date of June 30, 2028; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1048, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1048, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Lowen).

SCRep. 427 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 331

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an exemption from applicable county permit requirements for repetitive construction projects for facilities under the control of any state department or agency; and
- (2) Clarify that contracts for the construction, renovation, or repair of facilities under the control of the Department of Education, University of Hawai'i, or School Facilities Authority are exempt from county permitting requirements that related off-site improvements be made by the contracting government agency as a condition to the issuance of any permit, except for projects in special flood hazard areas.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Education; University of Hawai'i System; School Facilities Authority; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Hawaiian Islands Republican Women; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Board of Water Supply of the City and County of Honolulu and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the county permitting process coordinates work with fire, water, electrical, and various other county approvals. This measure would streamline the permitting process for projects under the control of certain state agencies.

Your Committee has amended this measure by specifying that repetitive construction projects include minor renovations.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 331, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 331, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 428 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 302

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal the requirement that a provider-patient relationship be established in person for purposes of obtaining a certification for medical cannabis; and
- (2) Allow applicants or primary caregivers to temporarily purchase medical cannabis after the submission of the applicant's certification form.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Cannabis Industry Association; Cure Oahu; Big Island Grown; Noa Botanicals; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Health; and Akamai Cannabis Consulting.

Your Committee finds that the number of registered medical cannabis patients has been in decline since 2021. There are various issues with the registration process, particularly the number of providers participating in the certification process. This measure eases the hurdle of access to participating providers by repealing the requirement that a provider-patient relationship be established in person for purposes of obtaining a certification for medical cannabis.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that written certifications must originate from within the State;
- (2) Deleting language that allowed applicants or primary caregivers to temporarily purchase medical cannabis after the submission of the applicant's certification form; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 302, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 302, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 429 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 981

The purpose of this measure is to limit attorneys' fees in settlement agreements relating to, or actions brought as a result of, construction defects to ensure that plaintiffs can better afford the repair costs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from D.R. Horton; Hawaii Laborers and Employers Cooperation and Education Trust; Gentry Homes, Ltd.; Stanford Carr Development, LLC; Building Industry Association of Hawaii; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Kasdan Turner Thomson Booth, LLC; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that attorney's fees can cost a prevailing party a significant portion of the party's settlement amount or monetary award. In some cases, a prevailing party may only receive sixty to sixty-five percent of the settlement amount or monetary award after attorney's fees and costs are deducted. This is particularly concerning if the claim is based on a construction defect since a significant reduction in the settlement amount or monetary award may not leave the plaintiff with enough money to cover the necessary repair costs. In such cases, the plaintiff may actually be in a worse position than before the suit. This measure limits the attorney's fees in cases with construction defect claims to ensure that plaintiffs receive a greater portion of their settlement amount or monetary award.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that attorneys are entitled to their accrued attorney's fees and costs not to exceed twenty-five percent of the recovery amount, rather than specifying that plaintiffs receive ninety percent of the repair cost;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 981, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 981, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 430 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 1482

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit the sale and distribution of hemp products that contain cannabinoids created through isomerization, including Delta 6 cis or trans tetrahydrocannabinol, and their optical isomers;
- (2) Exempt certain cannabis and manufactured cannabis product sales from the prohibition; and
- (3) Insert alternative names for Delta 6 cis or trans tetrahydrocannabinol and their optical isomers into the list of schedule I controlled substances.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; Honolulu Police Department; Aloha Green Apothecary; Noa Botanicals; Cure Oahu; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Department of the Attorney General; and Akamai Cannabis Consulting.

Your Committee finds that delta-8-tetrahydrocannabinol is found in the *Cannabis sativa* plant. The substance has psychoactive and intoxicating effects, similar to delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol, which is responsible for the "high" people may experience from using cannabis. Delta-8-tetrahydrocannabinol is not found in significant amounts in the cannabis plant. However, hemp products, if not manufactured properly, could expose consumers to higher levels of the substance. The United States Food and Drug Administration has noted that delta-8-tetrahydrocannabinol products have been marketed in ways that put public health at risk, and that concerns exist over variability in product information and product labeling, the inclusion of cannabinoid and terpene content, and variable delta-8-tetrahydrocannabinol concentrations.

Your Committee also finds that, although existing state law already classifies delta 8 cis or trans tetrahydrocannabinol, and their optical isomers, as schedule I controlled substances, this status is unclear because they are listed as their synonyms delta 6 cis or trans tetrahydrocannabinol, and their optical isomers.

Your Committee lastly finds that under schedule I of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, there are numerous cannabinoids found to have the highest degree of danger or probable danger. This measure explicitly provides that such substances are excluded from manufactured hemp products.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the word "synthetic" when referring to the cannabinoids controlled under schedule I of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, to avoid confusion with the term "synthetic cannabinoid" defined under the hemp processors law;

- (2) Specifically excluding synthetic cannabinoids and artificially derived cannabinoids from the definition of "manufactured hemp product", rather than simply excluding the schedule I cannabinoids;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1482, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1482, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 431 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 699

The purpose of this measure is to provide protections for pet owners and pet animals by:

- (1) Prohibiting insurers from refusing to issue or renew, canceling, restricting, otherwise terminating, or charging higher rates for a commercial general liability insurance policy, homeowners insurance policy, renters insurance policy, or dwelling fire policy based on the breed of any dog that is kept on the insured premises;
- (2) Prohibiting landlords from charging additional monthly fees for the keeping of a pet animal, except in certain circumstances; and
- (3) Limiting the monetary amount that a landlord may charge for a pet deposit.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaiian Humane Society; Sabers4Animals; Animal Interfaith Alliance in Britain; Animal Legal Defense Fund; The Humane Society of the United States; American Kennel Club; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Insurers Council and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS and American Property Casualty Insurance Association.

Your Committee finds that the lack of access to housing that welcomes pets breaks up families. Thirty percent of families who had surrendered a pet in the past five years said it was due to an inability to be housed with their pet. Furthermore, twenty-nine percent of houseless residents have at least one pet.

Your Committee further finds that fears surrounding pets in rental housing are not supported by data, as research has indicated that there is little difference in damage between tenants with and tenants without pets. Only nine percent of pets were reported to cause any damage whatsoever, and the average damages were \$210. Furthermore, most pet owners paid to fix damages themselves, with only two percent of pets that caused damage requiring a security deposit deduction for repairs. This measure promotes access to rental housing for persons with pets by limiting the additional charges a landlord may impose on a tenant simply for owning a pet.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that prohibited insurers from making underwriting decisions based on the breed of any dog that is kept on the insured premises;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 699, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 699, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, none.

SCRep. 432 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 918

The purpose of this measure is to establish labeling requirements for certain premoistened nonwoven disposable wipes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; Department of Environmental Services of the City and County of Honolulu; Department of Environmental Management of the County of Hawai'i; INDA, Association of the Nonwoven Fabrics Industry; and Hawai'i Association of REALTORS. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Agriculture; and Retail Merchants of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that wipes made from synthetic materials do not break down when they become wet. As a result, these wipes cause clogs or blockages in pipes and pumps, leading to sewage spills. This increases maintenance costs, reduces the efficiency of wastewater treatment facilities, and poses a health and safety risk to workers and residents. This measure is intended to raise public awareness and encourage responsible disposal of wipes by establishing labeling requirements for premoistened nonwoven disposable wipes.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Moving the statutory language and the regulation of the labeling requirements under jurisdiction of the Department of Health;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that, as this measure advances through the legislative process, that consideration be given for making the labeling requirements effective on July 1, 2026. Your Committee further notes that written testimony received by your Committee has suggested an alternative implementation strategy, using Oregon as a model. Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, should it deliberate on this measure, to give due consideration to this suggestion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 918, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 918, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 433 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 212

The purpose of this measure is to require and appropriate funds for the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions to establish a permanent Return-to-Home Program to return homeless individuals in the State to families and relatives in their home states.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of the Public Defender; The Institute for Human Services, Inc.; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the State Procurement Office.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii continues to face one of the highest per capita rates of homelessness in the nation. Many of these individuals are recent arrivals from out of state, placing additional strain on local outreach and shelter programs. The Return-to-Home Pilot Program, established by Act 94, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, has successfully assisted over one hundred homeless individuals in voluntarily returning to their home states, reducing demand on local resources. Given its effectiveness, expanding the program with additional resources would further its impact. This measure establishes the Return-to-Home Program as a permanent initiative to ensure continued support for those seeking to return home.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Subjecting, rather than exempting, all entities competing for contracts in the program to a competitive procurement bidding process;
- (2) Adding additional requirements for an individual's participation in the Return-to-Home Program;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 212, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 212, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 434 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 1450

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a three-year Climate-Resilient Food Systems Grant Pilot Program to provide grants to agricultural producers in the State for the acquisition of special-purpose equipment, technology, and ancillary costs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; 350Hawaii.org; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's agricultural sector faces increasing challenges due to high equipment costs, climate change, and global supply chain disruptions. To strengthen local food production and enhance resilience, farmers and ranchers require financial support to invest in climate-smart technology and infrastructure. By equipping local producers with these resources, this measure will improve farm efficiency and promote long-term food security.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$3,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1450, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1450, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 435 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 1393

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Agriculture to revitalize and enhance the Agricultural Statistics Program to collect data on local agricultural interests; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for program expenses and certain positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Information Practices.

Your Committee finds that timely and accurate agricultural statistics are crucial for informed decision-making, policy development, and the long-term success of Hawaii's agricultural industry. By leveraging electronic data collection methods and expanding insights into local and imported agricultural goods, this measure will support producers in optimizing operations, expanding market reach, and increasing food security.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying provisions related to the exemption of certain data and information collected from public disclosure, under certain conditions;
- (2) Requiring, rather than authorizing, the Department of Agriculture to collaborate with national and local entities to enhance data collection, analysis, and reporting efforts;
- (3) Changing the appropriation and allocation amounts to unspecified amounts;
- (4) Changing the number of positions to unspecified numbers;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and

(6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$880,000, including \$170,000 for the establishment of two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) agricultural economist positions; \$280,000 for the establishment of four full-time equivalent (4.0 FTE) research statistician positions; \$130,000 for the establishment of secured office space, equipment, the development of electronic data collection systems, and program expenses throughout the State; and \$300,000 for contracted specialty surveys to be conducted by third-party entities focusing on critical agricultural data needs.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1393, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1393, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 436 Tourism on H.B. No. 1006

The purpose of this measure is to include agricultural tourism in the definition of "enterprise" to authorize the Agribusiness Development Corporation to financially support farming businesses engaged in agricultural tourism.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that agricultural tourism is an entrepreneurial strategy that offers local farmers, many of whom may qualify as small businesses, greater economic opportunities through direct sales to and interaction with visitors to the State and other customers, while allowing farmers to capitalize on Hawaii's unique regional identity.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Tourism that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1006, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Matsumoto).

SCRep. 437 Higher Education on H.B. No. 1345

The purpose of this measure is to require the Board of Regents to grant a waiver on all tuition and mandatory fees to a resident student enrolled in the College of Education at the University of Hawaii at Manoa for the semester or term that the student enrolls in a state-approved teacher education program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; and Hawai'i State Teachers Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education and University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that this measure will incentivize more individuals to pursue a career in education in the State by alleviating the financial burden of tuition for attendance at the University of Hawaii at Manoa for individuals who enroll in the College of Education. Your Committee further finds that granting a waiver on all tuition and mandatory fees to a qualifying resident student enrolled at the University of Hilo and University of Hawaii West Oahu will further attract individuals to pursue an education degree in the State.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Expanding the granting of a waiver on all tuition and mandatory fees to residents enrolled in a four-year college campus of the University of Hawaii with an education program or that offers an education degree for the semester or term that the student enrolls in a state-approved teacher education program; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1345, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1345, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Evslin, Muraoka).

SCRep. 438 Higher Education on H.B. No. 643

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish short-term management initiatives for the Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Response Program; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to support the Program's activities and positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; University of Hawai'i at Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience; Hawaii Invasive Species Council; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Office of Economic Development of the County of Kaua'i; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; Big Island Invasive Species Committee; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that the coconut rhinoceros beetle is a significant pest that poses a significant threat to Hawaii's agricultural landscape, particularly its coconut and palm populations. In response, the Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Response Program was established to combat the growing population of coconut rhinoceros beetles. Your Committee believes that establishing short-term management initiatives for the Program is essential in protecting farms and natural resources in the State from this invasive species. Additionally, further funding for the Program will enable the implementation of immediate actions to manage and mitigate coconut rhinoceros beetles.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language establishing standards for the distribution of the funds appropriated to subsidize canopy treatment for residential palm owners;
- (2) Amending the preamble to declare that the management of coconut rhinoceros beetles is a matter of statewide concern; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 643, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 643, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Evslin, Muraoka).

SCRep. 439 Higher Education on H.B. No. 442

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for various nursing programs of the University of Hawaii System.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; East Hawaii Region of Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; Hawai'i State Center for Nursing; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; and AlohaCare. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Academic Labor United and one individual.

Your Committee finds that growing demand for skilled nursing professionals is critical to addressing health care shortages and ensuring the well-being of the State's communities. Your Committee further finds that investing in nursing education programs of the University of Hawaii not only strengthens Hawaii's health care system but also supports economic growth, improves health outcomes, and enhances the State's capacity to provide equitable and accessible care for all residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriations to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider appropriating the following amounts:

- (1) \$447,936 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and fiscal year 2026-2027 for University of Hawaii, Manoa (UOH 100)-University of Hawaii, West Oahu nursing collaboration phase III;
- (2) \$111,984 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and fiscal year 2026-2027 for the University of Hawaii, Manoa (UOH 100) for the online RN to BS program;
- (3) \$424,364 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and fiscal year 2026-2027 for the University of Hawaii, West Oahu (UOH 700) for the pre-nursing pathway; and
- (4) \$297,500 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$595,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for the University of Hawaii at Hilo (UOH210) to increase its school of nursing cohort size.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 442, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 442, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Evslin, Muraoka).

SCRep. 440 Higher Education on H.B. No. 548

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i to issue revenue bonds and appropriate funds out of the revenue bond proceeds for the acquisition of the former Saint Francis School campus located at 2707 Pamoia Road in Honolulu.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Avalon Group and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the University of Hawaii is interested in the property previously owned by the St. Francis of the Neumann Communities and currently owned by the Avalon Group at 2707 Pamoia Road in Honolulu because of its close proximity to the University of Hawaii at Manoa campus and the potential integration of the property into its long-range development plan. Accordingly, this measure would allow the University to be prepared to pursue acquisition of the property if it becomes available for sale.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 548, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 548, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, 1 (Muraoka). Excused, none.

SCRep. 441 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 1176

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Hawaii Economic Diversification Grant Program under the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation to provide grants to qualified high technology businesses engaging in qualified research activities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Makai Ocean Engineering; Oceanit; PacMar Technologies; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's economy is heavily reliant on the tourism industry and that there is a need to support opportunities for economic diversification and the development of high technology businesses. This measure addresses this need by establishing the Hawaii Economic Diversification Grant Program to provide grants to qualified high technology businesses engaging in qualified research activities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1176, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1176, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 442 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 1370

The purpose of this measure is to amend the definition of draft beer to mean beer in an individual container of five gallons or more.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Lanikai Brewing Co.; Hana Koa Brewing Co.; Kauai Beer Company; Napali Brewing Company; Brewers Association; and Maui Brewing Co. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation.

Your Committee finds that beer that qualifies as draft beer, which is currently defined as beer in an individual container of seven gallons or more, is subject to a lower liquor tax rate. Your Committee further finds that this definition does not align with industry practices, as most retailers, restaurants, and bars dispense draft beer from kegs smaller than seven gallons. This measure addresses this issue by amending the definition of draft beer to mean beer in an individual container of five gallons or more.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1370, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1370, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 443 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 1372

The purpose of this measure is to increase the amount of manufactured liquor or other alcoholic beverages that a small craft producer pub license holder may produce.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Kauai Beer Company; Napali Brewing Company; and Maui Brewing Co.

Your Committee finds that existing law limits the amount of liquor and other alcoholic beverages that can be manufactured by licensed small craft producer pubs. This measure increases these production limits, thereby enabling small craft producer pubs to expand, support local agriculture, create more jobs, and contribute more to the local economy.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1372, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1372, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 444 Health/Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 237

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the establishment and oversight of peer-to-peer support programs for children from birth to age five and their families.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Wellness and Resilience; Department of Health; Commit to Keiki; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Family Hui Hawai'i; Association for Infant Mental Health in Hawai'i; AlohaCare; and numerous individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committees find that peer-to-peer support programs for families with young children increase the exchange of information between parents with shared experiences, provide parents and caregivers with screening and referrals to other services, and reduce social isolation. Your Committees further find that peer-to-peer support programs are a cost-effective means of reducing negative parenting practices, connecting victims of intimate partner violence to appropriate support, and encouraging completion of substance use disorder programs. Your Committees believe that investing in peer-to-peer support programs for families with young children will increase savings in the long term and provide the State's children with a solid foundation for life.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation and position counts to unspecified amounts; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committees respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$860,000, to be allocated as follows:

- (1) \$200,000 for one full-time equivalent program specialist V position and one full-time equivalent program specialist IV position;
- (2) \$270,000 for purchase of service contracts with neighborhood or location peer-to-peer based groups; and
- (3) \$390,000 for purchase of service contracts for addiction and child welfare peer support programs.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Health and Human Services & Homelessness that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 237, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 237, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Health: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Human Services & Homelessness: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 445 Health on H.B. No. 872

The purpose of this measure is to authorize health care practitioners to make undesignated prescriptions for epinephrine for the purpose of stocking a supply at various types of business and state and county government offices, including public schools.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education and Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that anaphylaxis is a life-threatening allergic reaction that is characterized by rapid onset and the involvement of multiple organ systems. Individuals who are unaware of an allergy or who have had only mild allergic reactions in the past may suddenly experience a life-threatening reaction. Your Committee further finds that the first-line treatment for anaphylaxis is the timely administration of epinephrine, which reduces the risk of fatal or debilitating outcomes associated with anaphylaxis. This measure is intended to improve survival rates and health outcomes for persons affected by severe allergies by allowing various entities to stock a supply of undesignated epinephrine.

Your Committee notes the concerns of the Department of Health in their written testimony regarding the potential costs and administrative responsibilities associated with this measure. Your Committee appreciates these concerns but notes that this measure is discretionary and not a requirement on the Department of Health or practitioners.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Replacing all references of "auto-injectable epinephrine" with "single-use epinephrine";
- (2) Clarifying that instruction in the administration of single-use epinephrine given to state and county employees and agents shall be by a practitioner or registered nurse;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 872, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 872, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 446 Health on H.B. No. 1092

The purpose of this measure is to amend third party liability provisions for Medicaid programs for payment as required under the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that updates to state law are necessary to conform to new third party liability requirements included in the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022. This measure requires liable third-party payers to be responsible for reimbursing Medicaid providers based on the standards of the Medicaid program and prohibits providers from denying payment based on other standards.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1092, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1092, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 447 Health on H.B. No. 1120

The purpose of this measure is to clarify the legal authority of the Department of Health to prevent and address nuisances that threaten public or environmental health, or both.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from five individuals.

Your Committee finds that the scope of nuisances overseen by the Department of Health is overly broad, as it encompasses all health, which leads to ambiguity as to the Department's role in addressing nuisances. It is therefore in the interest of public health and safety to clarify that the Department of Health's oversight is specifically for nuisances that threaten public health, environmental health, or both.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1120, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1120, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 448 Health on H.B. No. 1282

The purpose of this measure is to lower the minimum age for a certified caregiver for an adult foster home from twenty-one to eighteen.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities; ILWU Local 1000; Sebastian's ARCH LLC; Providing Healthy Homecare for Hawaii - PH3; and six individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that the children of families who run adult foster homes often grow up alongside the residents, resulting in young adults who have a unique bond with the individuals they care for. Your Committee further finds that the individuals often need part-time jobs to help support their families. Lowering the minimum age for a certified caregiver for an adult foster family home to eighteen will enable adult foster homes to address staffing shortages and enable these young adults to make a meaningful contribution to their community.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1282, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1282, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 449 Health on H.B. No. 1109

The purpose of this measure is to protect public health and ensure responsible consumption of hemp-derived products by prohibiting the sale or offer for sale or distribution of any manufactured hemp product to individuals under the age of twenty-one.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Retail Merchants of Hawaii; VNV Holdings; Hawaiian Choice; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Hemptuary Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that use of untested and unapproved drugs, such as hemp-derived cannabinoid products, can have unpredictable and unintended consequences, particularly on children due to the differences in how their bodies absorb, metabolize, and distribute these substances. Your Committee further finds that the United States Food and Drug Administration has consistently determined that cannabidiol, more commonly known as CBD, and tetrahydrocannabinol, whether derived from hemp or cannabis, is not allowed as a dietary supplement or food under federal law. Your Committee believes that raising the minimum age for purchase of manufactured hemp products will protect the health and safety of consumers in Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1109, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1109, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 2 (Alcos, Garcia). Excused, none.

SCRep. 450 Health on H.B. No. 1389

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the City and County of Honolulu for the expansion of the feral chicken program and the Vector Control Branch of the Department of Health for a statewide education campaign for the feeding of feral animals.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Customer Services, City and County of Honolulu; and Hawai'i Farm Bureau. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that feral animals threaten local ecosystems and can transmit diseases that affect humans and native species. Your Committee further finds that feeding feral animals increases feral populations, often to the detriment of the welfare of the feral animals, environment, and human health. Your Committee believes that providing financial support to expand county feral animal programs and educating residents and visitors on the harmful effects of feeding feral animals is vital to protect the health and safety of Hawaii's environment and its people.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests the Department of Health to provide an estimate of program costs necessary for this measure to your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1389, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1389, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, none.

SCRep. 451 Health on H.B. No. 866

The purpose of this measure is to require, and appropriate funds for, the Department of Health to stockpile a one-year supply of mifepristone.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one member of the Hawai'i County Council; AAUW of Hawaii; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Indivisible Hawai'i; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Women's Caucus; American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Fujiwara & Rosenbaum LLC; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that developments in the nation's legal landscape threaten the reproductive health care rights of people in Hawaii. Legislative efforts and legal challenges from anti-abortion State lawmakers on the mainland could lead to nationwide restrictions and potential federal actions could be used to

ban mifepristone throughout the country. Your Committee further finds that by stockpiling mifepristone, the State ensures continued access to medication-based abortions, especially given limited in-person services and potential supply chain disruptions. This measure reinforces the State's longstanding commitment to privacy, bodily autonomy, and reproductive rights.

Your Committee notes the appropriation amount of \$75,000 in this measure for the purchase of mifepristone and respectfully requests the Department of Health to develop a storage and distribution plan, particularly for neighbor islands.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Providing the Department of Health with the flexibility to coordinate the stockpiling of mifepristone in quantities no less than a one-year supply;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 866, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 866, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, 2 (Alcos, Garcia). Excused, none.

SCRep. 452 Public Safety on H.B. No. 1062

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow the head of the Hawaii Air National Guard to hold the rank authorized by the United States Department of the Air Force, which is currently major general;
- (2) Provide the Adjutant General with the flexibility to assign either the Chief of Staff or the Assistant Adjutant General to lead the Hawaii Air National Guard; and
- (3) Authorize the pay and allowances for the Chief of Staff of the Hawaii Air National Guard to be determined according to the pay tables of the regular Air Force of the United States.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Defense; Hawaii Air National Guard; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that this measure streamlines the chain of command and provides the Adjutant General with the flexibility to appoint either the Chief of Staff or the Assistant Adjutant General-Air to head the Hawaii Air National Guard.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1062, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1062, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Lamosao, Woodson).

SCRep. 453 Public Safety on H.B. No. 674

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the payment of allowances for TRICARE, TRICARE Dental Program, and vision coverage to all officers, warrant officers, and enlisted personnel of the Hawaii National Guard ordered to active duty for more than thirty days.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Defense; Hawaii National Guard; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that it is essential to ensure that Hawaii National Guard servicemembers receive necessary medical care when they are called to serve on state active duty for more than thirty days, especially during disasters or domestic crises. These servicemembers who make significant sacrifices to selflessly protect and serve the people of Hawaii deserve this vital coverage for their health and well-being.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 674, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 674, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 454 Public Safety on H.B. No. 628

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Department of Education to establish a program to award high school diplomas to persons:

- (1) Who did not receive a diploma as a result of compulsory or voluntary induction into the United States armed services during certain time periods; or
- (2) Whose high school education was interrupted due to wartime practices during World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Office of Veterans Services; Hawaii Military Affairs Council; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that compulsory or voluntary induction into active service in the armed services of the United States and the implementation of other wartime practices caused the interruption of many individuals' education. Your Committee further finds that the establishment of a program to award high school diplomas to these individuals recognizes their service and sacrifice.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 628, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hashem, Ichiyama).

SCRep. 455 Public Safety on H.B. No. 1058

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Veterans Cemeteries Board within the Office of Veterans Services of the Department of Defense to provide veterans cemeteries in the State with guidance, education, technical assistance, and other support to ensure compliance with standards set by the National Cemetery Administration of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Defense; Office of Veterans Services; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the final resting places of eligible veterans, active-duty servicemembers, and their eligible family members should reflect Hawaii's appreciation and gratitude for their service and sacrifice to the State and nation.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1058, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1058, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 456 Public Safety on H.B. No. 503

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Department of Accounting and General Services to engage a consultant to evaluate potential sites and designs for the Hawaii First Responders Memorial.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services; Office of the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu; County of Kaua'i Fire Department; a member of the Honolulu City Council; United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that it is important to create a suitable memorial to serve as a lasting tribute to Hawaii first responders who have selflessly served their community and made the ultimate sacrifice.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider appropriating \$100,000 to hire a consultant to evaluate potential locations and designs for a Hawaii First Responders Memorial.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 503, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 503, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 457 Public Safety on H.B. No. 1158

The purpose of this measure is to limit the civil liability of individuals who render firefighting services with a firefighting vessel, upon reasonable command, at any of the State's commercial harbors or roadsteads, any commercial harbor or waterfront improvement belonging to or controlled by the State, or any vessel within a commercial harbor or roadstead to only damages resulting from the individual's gross negligence or wanton acts or omissions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that this measure provides legal protection to private individuals who can assist county fire departments in certain situations by limiting their liability, except for damages resulting from gross negligence or wanton acts or omissions.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1158, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hashem, Ichiyama).

SCRep. 458 Public Safety on H.B. No. 1159

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require masters or persons in charge of vessels to follow an order by a harbor master to evacuate a commercial harbor during emergencies;
- (2) Establish higher penalties for noncompliance with evacuation orders; and
- (3) Require fines collected for violations to be paid into the Harbor Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Harbors Users Group.

Your Committee finds that during times of emergency, it is essential that commercial harbor users evacuate the State's commercial harbors when ordered to do so by the harbor master.

Your Committee notes the concerns raised in written testimony that smaller vessels may face danger if required to evacuate and be forced out into the open sea.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1159, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto, Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hashem, Ichiyama).

SCRep. 459 Public Safety/Transportation on H.B. No. 657

The purpose of this measure is to exempt disabled veterans from the State's vehicle weight tax and repeal the exemption for disabled veterans from the State's annual vehicle registration fee.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Veterans of Foreign Wars - Department of Hawai'i; Hawaii Military Affairs Council; Hawaii National Guard Enlisted Association; and five individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committees find that many disabled veterans in Hawaii live on fixed incomes yet face an ever-rising cost of living, which makes assistance through the reduction of a recurring financial burden particularly helpful.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Public Safety and Transportation that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 657, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 657, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Public Safety: Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

Transportation: Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 460 Education on H.B. No. 838

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the bonus for teachers who achieve and maintain a current national board certification from \$5,000 to \$10,000; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to fund the teacher bonuses.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board; State Public Charter School Commission; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of Collective Bargaining. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that, according to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, Hawaii currently has 789 total National Board Certified Teachers, with 345 more individuals pursuing this prestigious distinction. Your Committee further finds that the process of seeking National Board Certification is rigorous and often referred to as the most effective professional development that a teacher can go through. Your Committee believes that incentivizing teachers to pursue National Board Certification Teacher status will encourage more teachers to pursue the rigorous process while also encouraging them to stay in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the amount appropriated to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 838, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 838, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 461 Education on H.B. No. 1499

The purpose of this measure is to authorize public school employees or agents who have completed appropriate training to act as volunteer substitutes to administer medications to students.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Department of Health; University of Hawai'i at Mānoa School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene; University of Hawai'i at Mānoa John A. Burns School of Medicine; Hawai'i State Center for Nursing; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and nine individuals.

Your Committee finds that school health assistants may administer medications to students in state public schools. However, due to vacancies, many schools face challenges in meeting the needs of students who are prescribed medications or may benefit from receiving medications in emergency situations while on campus. Your Committee believes that school staff acting as volunteers can be an effective substitute for school health assistants after completing training and general instruction in certain tasks.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1499, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1499, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 462 Education on H.B. No. 961

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a two-year pilot program for two certified librarians to provide rotating support services to schools in one school complex on Oahu and one school complex on a neighbor island; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the certified librarian positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Hawai'i Library Association; Hawai'i Association of School Librarians; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that out of the two hundred fifty-eight public elementary, middle, intermediate, and high schools throughout Hawaii, only seventy-five have a full-time or part-time librarian position filled to support student learning in 2025. Your Committee further finds that establishing a pilot program to provide rotating support services provided by a certified librarian between schools will help bolster library services in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the amount appropriated and the number of positions to be funded to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (3) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$132,308, to be allocated as follows:

- (1) \$66,154 for one twelve-month state office-level teacher position, to be filled by a certified librarian, for a school complex on Oahu; and
- (2) \$66,154 for one twelve-month state office-level teacher position, to be filled by a certified librarian, for a school complex on an island other than Oahu.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 961, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 961, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 463 Education on H.B. No. 962

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Education to establish and administer a two-year school librarian pilot program to provide financial support to Department of Education schools for the hiring of qualified librarians.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Hawai'i Library Association; Hawai'i Association of School Librarians; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that a well-equipped and staffed library is essential for fostering student learning, personal growth, and academic success. Your Committee further finds that only twenty-four percent of Hawaii's public schools are staffed with licensed school librarians. This measure establishes a pilot program to provide funding for schools to hire qualified librarians and provide students of the State with a key resource to succeed through school librarians.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 962, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 962, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 464 Education on H.B. No. 730

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for five full-time equivalent positions within the Civil Rights Compliance Branch of the Department of Education.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Fujiwara & Rosenbaum, LLC; American Association of University Women of Hawai'i; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that complying with and upholding state and federal civil rights laws is an important responsibility of the Department of Education. Your Committee further finds that additional staff and funding are needed for the Department of Education to better comply with and uphold state and federal civil rights laws.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 730, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 730, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 465 Education on H.B. No. 754

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Education for community schools, including for one full-time equivalent program manager position.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Pacific Resources for Education and Learning; YMCA of Honolulu; University of Hawaii Place-based Afterschool Literacy Support Team; Ceeds of Peace; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Harold K.L. Castle Foundation; Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance; and eight individuals. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the Department of Education. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that community schools help align and leverage resources already in the community to address students' barriers to learning. Community schools are a proven, time-tested strategy that can produce short-term results, including improving family engagement and attendance and decreasing behavioral referrals, and long-term results like improving academic scores, school culture and climate, student enrollment, teacher retention, and graduation rates. This measure will provide funding for community schools to ensure high-quality educational opportunities and improved educational outcomes for students through the support and input from families of students and the local community.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 754, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 754, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 466 Education on H.B. No. 1069

The purpose of this measure is to add two voting members that represent the Department of Education and Board of Education to the School Facilities Board.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Board of Education and Department of Education. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the School Facilities Authority.

Your Committee finds that adding two voting members that represent the Department of Education and Board of Education to the School Facilities Board is necessary to ensure that the planning and development of school facilities in Hawaii by the School Facilities Authority are closely aligned with the educational goals and priorities of the State's public education system.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1069, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1069, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 467 Education on H.B. No. 636

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a school capital improvement project modernization initiative in the School Facilities Authority to create a planning database for school facilities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the School Facilities Authority; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Lou's Quality Home Health Care Services, LLC; and Philippine Nurses Association of Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education; Department of the Attorney General; and Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that construction is historically expensive in Hawaii and that the industry has faced challenges related to the lingering impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The amount of money the State spends on school-related construction and the reasons for such spending need to be informed and justified. Your Committee believes that a planning database can help inform spending and prioritization of capital improvement projects for school facilities in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 636, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 636, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 468 Education on H.B. No. 987

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the State Procurement Automation System Special Fund to receive transaction fees from the procurement automation system to pay for the system's administration, management, operation, maintenance, and upgrade; and
- (2) Add the School Facilities Authority Executive Director as a chief procurement officer.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services and State Procurement Office.

Your Committee finds that in 2022, the Legislature authorized a procurement automation system and authorized the State Procurement Office to implement a transaction fee on vendors to pay for the administration of the system. However, the Legislature did not authorize a special fund into which to deposit the transaction fees collected. Until a special fund is established, the vendor contracted to implement the procurement automation system collects the fees and holds the funds in trust for the State. This measure will establish a special fund to hold these transaction fees and ensure that the fees deposited into the special fund will be administered by the State Procurement Office.

Your Committee further finds that when the School Facilities Authority was established under Act 72, Session Laws of Hawaii 2020, the Executive Director of the School Facilities Authority was mandated to serve as the Authority's Chief Procurement Officer. This measure will provide clarity by explicitly adding the Executive Director of the School Facilities Authority to the list of chief of procurement officers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 987, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 987, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 469 Education on H.B. No. 902

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Education to conduct a study on methods that will help support schools impacted by the Hawaiian Electric Company's Planned Public Safety Power Shutoff program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Public Utilities Commission; and Hawaiian Electric.

Your Committee finds that the Hawaiian Electric Company's Planned Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) Program, implemented on July 1, 2024, aims to reduce wildfire risks by proactively shutting off power in high-risk areas during specific weather conditions. While the PSPS Program is critical for public safety, the program's implementation poses significant operational challenges for public schools and may disrupt essential services at the schools. Currently, fifteen Department of Education schools and one public charter school are identified as vulnerable to PSPS events.

Your Committee believes that maintaining school operations during PSPS events is vital to ensuring educational continuity, providing access to meals, and sustaining a sense of normalcy for students. This measure will provide funding for a study that will give further insight on ways to support schools that may be impacted by the PSPS Program.

Your Committee notes that electric utility public safety power shutoffs may affect parts of Kauai County and believes that the study as required by this measure should encompass counties that are not provided electricity by the Hawaiian Electric Company.

Your Committee has accordingly amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the appropriation to the Department of Education shall be used to conduct a study on methods to support Department schools that may be impacted by electric utilities' planned public safety power shutoff program;
- (2) Amending the preamble to reflect its amended purpose;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive changes for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 902, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 902, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, 1 (Muraoka). Excused, none.

SCRep. 470 Higher Education on H.B. No. 441

The purpose of this measure is to increase the cigarette tax beginning July 1, 2025, and allocate the increase in the cigarette tax amount to be deposited into the Hawaii Cancer Research Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Health; University of Hawaii Cancer Center; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hina Mauka; Hawaii Medical Association; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center; Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids; The Queen's Health Systems; Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; American Lung Association; Kobayashi Group; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Japan Tobacco International U.S.A., Inc.; Hawaii Smokers Alliance; Marukin Market; BMA Mart; Cigar Association of America; Wawa Market; Kilani Market; and seven individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; and Tax Foundation.

Your Committee finds that funding from the cigarette tax has been instrumental since the Hawaii Cancer Research Special Fund's inception in 2006, enabling the construction of the University of Hawaii Cancer Center building and the launching of strategic initiatives to combat cancer. However, due to the success of smoking cessation efforts, this allocation has declined, indicating both progress in public health and a concerning decrease in resources for the initiatives that have fueled this advancement. Your Committee believes that an increase in the cigarette tax will restore funding for the University of Hawaii Cancer Center and expand its capacity to conduct groundbreaking research and deliver patient care to save more lives across the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the cigarette tax amount and dispositions of the cigarette tax revenue to unspecified amounts; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider:

- (1) Establishing a tax rate of 18.00 cents for each cigarette or little cigar sold, used, or possessed by a wholesaler or dealer on and after July 1, 2025; and
- (2) After June 30, 2025, depositing the following amounts from the cigarette tax revenue into the appropriate special funds:
 - (A) 4.0 cents per cigarette to be deposited to the credit of the Hawaii Cancer Research Special Fund;
 - (B) 1.125 cents per cigarette, but no more than \$7,400,000 in a fiscal year, to be deposited to the credit of the Trauma System Special Fund;
 - (C) 1.25 cents per cigarette, but no more than \$8,800,000 in a fiscal year, to be deposited to the credit of the Community Health Centers Special Fund; and
 - (D) 1.25 cents per cigarette, but no more than \$8,800,000 in a fiscal year, to be deposited to the credit of the Emergency Medical Services Special Fund.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 441, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 441, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Evslin, Muraoka).

SCRep. 471 Higher Education on H.B. No. 1085

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the tax rates for cigarettes and little cigars, beginning January 1, 2026;
- (2) Amend the disposition of tax revenues to certain special funds, beginning July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Expand the disposition of tax revenues to the various special funds to include all revenues collected from all tobacco product taxes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Health; University of Hawaii Cancer Center; State Health Planning and Development Agency; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hawaii Medical Association; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawaii COPD Coalition; The Queen's Health Systems; Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; American Lung Association; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Japan Tobacco International U.S.A., Inc.; Hawaii Smokers Alliance; Cigar Association of America; Americans for Tax Reform; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; and Tax Foundation.

Your Committee finds that cigarette tax revenue has progressively declined since its inception, which has affected funding for many critical health care services and programs of the State, including funding for the University of Hawaii Cancer Center. Your Committee further finds that increasing the tax on cigarettes and expanding the allocation of revenues to the special funds that support these important health care services and programs to include tax collected from all tobacco products will ensure that these services and programs are sufficiently funded.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the tax rate for cigarettes and little cigars, as well as the disposition amounts of the tobacco product tax revenue, to unspecified amounts.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider:

- (1) Establishing a tax rate of 21.00 cents for each cigarette or little cigar sold, used, or possessed by a wholesaler or dealer on and after January 1, 2026; and
- (2) Beginning July 1, 2025, depositing the following amounts from the tobacco product tax revenue into the appropriate special funds:
 - (A) Twenty-five percent or \$14,080,000, whichever is less, to be deposited to the credit of the Hawaii Cancer Research Special Fund;
 - (B) Twenty-five percent or \$7,400,000, whichever is less, to be deposited to the credit of the Trauma System Special Fund;
 - (C) Twenty-five percent or \$8,800,000, whichever is less, to be deposited to the credit of the Community Health Centers Special Fund; and
 - (D) Twenty-five percent or \$8,800,000, whichever is less, to be deposited to the credit of the Emergency Medical Services Special Fund.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1085, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1085, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Evslin, Muraoka).

SCRep. 472 Labor on H.B. No. 430

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an on-the-job training work experience program for eligible interns that partners with private entities to increase opportunities for high school and college and university students to participate in summer internship programs;
- (2) Establish internships with private sector employers through a cost-sharing strategy; and
- (3) Appropriate funds to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for the purposes administering this program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; University of Hawai'i System; Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for Education; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Kohala Coast Resort Association; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; and Maui Chamber of Commerce. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that internship and mentorship programs give students the chance to build communication skills, relationships, and confidence, while gaining valuable work experience that will build a stronger workforce. Your Committee further finds that expanding state-funded internships to include private-sector positions will benefit the State by promoting economic growth, fostering public-private collaborations, and supporting job creation. Your Committee believes that this measure will create opportunities for interns to gain practical work experience and prepare for their future careers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Allowing an extension of up to eight weeks for high school students during the summer break;
- (2) Excluding from eligibility apprentices who are in a registered apprenticeship program;
- (3) Requiring interns to pass a criminal background check;
- (4) Requiring employers will provide equitable conditions to interns as they do to regular employees;
- (5) Requiring employers to consult with the Department of Education to obtain assistance for an intern who requires support services to complete a task;
- (6) Increasing the maximum of working hours for high school student during the summer break to forty hours;
- (7) Limiting the maximum working hours for college students who are enrolled in at least two college courses;
- (8) Clarifying the intent for workers' compensation coverage for students by the State is for the proposed internship program;
- (9) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (10) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 430, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 430, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 473 Labor on H.B. No. 827

The purpose of this measure is to expand workers' compensation coverage to include firefighters who develop cancer or diseases in the discharge of their firefighting duties.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Hawaii Fire Fighters Association; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that firefighters have a 9 percent greater chance of being diagnosed with cancer and a 14 percent greater chance of dying from cancer than the general United States population. Your Committee also finds that firefighters are constantly inhaling and ingesting carcinogens from fire combustion which put them at high risk for developing diseases later in life. Your Committee believes that this measure ensures support for firefighters by providing workers' compensation benefits to those who develop cancer or diseases resulting from firefighting duties.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 827, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 827, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 474 Labor on H.B. No. 423

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify the process for selecting a certified provider of rehabilitation services; and
- (2) Require providers to automatically approve vocational rehabilitation services for an injured employee if those services will likely be required for suitable gainful employment.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development; American Property Casualty Insurance Association; and Hawaii Insurers Council. Your committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Your Committee finds that early intervention is vital to ensure the efficient and effective rehabilitation of employees who suffer a work-related injury. Your Committee also finds that employees who participate in vocational rehabilitation services have better recovery outcomes and can return to work earlier than if they had not participated in rehabilitation. Your Committee further finds that the existing process hinders the success of recovery from an injury because there is a lengthy approval process for the injured employee to be referred to vocational rehabilitation. Your Committee believes that this measure maximizes the chances of a successful recovery for the injured employee so that they can return to work with minimal limitations and minimizes costs for employers and insurers.

Your Committee amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the voluntary basis of the vocational rehabilitation program;
- (2) Clarifying when the thirty days begins for an injured employee to choose a provider;
- (3) Adding statutory language to align this measure with title 34 Code of Federal Regulations section 361.45(e) related to when a provider must file the employee's plan of employment;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 423, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 423, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 475 Labor on H.B. No. 162

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Hawai'i Labor Relations Board to include the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service in their request to the American Arbitration Association to furnish a list of five qualified interest arbitrators, to mediate labor disputes; and
- (2) Clarify that the list of five interest arbitrators may contain interest arbitrators from the American Arbitration Association and the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, or its successors.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State AFL-CIO; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; and United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Labor Relations Board.

Your Committee finds that the American Arbitration Association is the only organization that is authorized to furnish a list of five neutral interest arbitrators to mediate impasses during labor disputes. Your Committee believes that expanding the pool of qualified and experienced interest arbitrators to be chosen from can ensure fairness and efficiency to resolve labor disputes.

Your Committee amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 162, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 162, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 476 Labor on H.B. No. 202

The purpose of this measure is to amend the definition of "adequate reserve fund" to specify the multipliers used in the calculation of the adequate reserve fund for calendar years 2026 through 2030.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that it is important to ensure that the Unemployment Trust Fund has enough solvency to dispense unemployment insurance benefits, especially during times of economic crises. Your Committee also finds that in 2007 the multiplier used to calculate the adequate reserve fund was changed from 1.50 percent to 1 percent, which resulted in inadequate reserves during the COVID-19 pandemic when unemployment was high, which further led to the Unemployment Reserve Fund having to borrow \$700,000,000 from the United States Department of Labor to pay unemployment insurance benefits. Your Committee believes that incrementally readjusting the multipliers to calculate the adequate reserve fund to 1.50 percent would strengthen the Unemployment Trust Fund against high unemployment rates during economic crises.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Using the multiplier of 1.25 percent only for calendar year 2026;
- (2) Using the multiplier of 1.50 percent starting in calendar year 2027 and thereafter;
- (3) Changing the effective date to January 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 202, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 202, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 477 Labor on H.B. No. 165

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Hawai'i Labor Relations Board to enforce its own orders.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Labor Relations Board. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds it important to clarify that the Hawaii Labor Relations Board has the authority to enforce its own orders. Your Committee also finds that under existing law the Hawaii Labor Relations Board is authorized to conduct proceedings on complaints of prohibited or unfair practices and take action as it deems necessary and proper. Therefore, your Committee believes it is appropriate to authorize the Hawaii Labor Relations Board to enforce such actions, as it relates to proceedings on complaints of prohibited practices by employers, employees, and employee organizations.

Your Committee amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 165, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 165, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 478 Labor on H.B. No. 164

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require disbursing officers to notify employees within sixty days of determining that an indebtedness has occurred as a result of salary or wage overpayment; and
- (2) Change the amount that a disbursing officer may deduct from an employee's salary, wage, or compensation based on the employee's gross income.

Your Committee received testimony in support for this measure from the Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; and United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services.

Your Committee finds that the State and counties will mistakenly overpay an employee, and seek to correct this error by collecting repayment of either \$100 per pay period, or 25 percent of the employee's salary, wage, or compensation until the indebtedness is paid in full, without regard to the employee's earnings. Your Committee believes that this measure provides a repayment plan that is manageable for low-income employees to repay the State or a county while lessening the financial strain.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 164, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 164, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 479 Labor on H.B. No. 847

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify the definition of "covered employer" in the Hawaii Retirement Savings Act;
- (2) Require automatic enrollment of employees into the Hawaii Retirement Savings Program unless the employee opts out;
- (3) Repeal the limit on the total fees and expenses that can be spent for the program each year; and
- (4) Appropriate funds for the Hawaii Retirement Savings Program's development and operations.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging; Hawai'i Retirement Savings Board; 604 Hospitality Group LLC; Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition; Hawai'i Restaurant Association; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Retail Merchants of Hawaii and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that employers with retirement savings programs auto-enrollment policies have higher overall contribution rates by their employees than employers with only voluntary enrollment. Your Committee believes that this measure encourages employees to engage with their retirement plans and make proactive and informed decisions about their financial future.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Replacing the term "program administrator" with "covered employer" with regard to who is to provide employees written notice of employees' right to opt out of automatic enrollment;
- (2) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$720,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 847, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 847, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garrett).

SCRep. 480 Labor on H.B. No. 163

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the State or a county to reimburse a public officer or employee within thirty calendar days after a reimbursement request for work-related travel costs that the officer or employee loaned to the State or county; and
- (2) Require the State or a county to pay a percentage of interest on the total amount owed to an officer or employee until the loan is fully reimbursed.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the State Procurement Office and Department of Accounting and General Services.

Your Committee finds that work-related travel costs for public officers and employees can unnecessarily put a financial strain on employees when the State or county does not provide reimbursement in a timely manner. Your Committee believes that this measure ensures that public officers and employees are reimbursed with interest in a reasonable time.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that a Statement of Completed Travel or similar document must be submitted as the formal request for reimbursement; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 163, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 163, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 481 Labor on H.B. No. 159

The purpose of this measure is to clarify that the civil service exemption for personal service contracts with qualified community rehabilitation programs for certain maintenance services shall not cost more than \$850,000 in the aggregate per private person or entity.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; and United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui.

Your Committee finds that the State and counties regularly outsource service jobs to private entities for certain maintenance services that would otherwise be fulfilled by government employees. Your Committee also finds that these lucrative private contracts entice employees to seek positions with certain private employers which contributes to the high position vacancy rates that the State and counties are faced with. Your Committee believes that this measure strikes a balance between preventing over-privitization and allowing qualified community rehabilitation programs to provide meaningful employment opportunities to individuals for disabled workers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 159, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 159, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 482 Labor on H.B. No. 555

The purpose of this measure is to require employers to authorize and permit employees a ten minute paid rest period for every four hours worked.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from six individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Hawai'i Restaurant Association; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; Retail Merchants of Hawaii; and Tiki's Grill & Bar. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Department of Human Resources of the City and County of Honolulu; Hawaii Food Industry Association; and Matson Navigation Company, Inc.

Your Committee finds that it is important to ensure all employers provide employees with rest periods during their work shift without deducting wages. Your Committee further finds that while some employers informally provide their employees with paid rest periods, it is not a requirement for them to do so. This measure protects employees against bad employer practices by adding a requirement for employers to permit a paid rest period for every four hours worked in statute.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the requirements of this measure does not apply to public employees who are excluded from collective bargaining;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 555, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 555, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5; Ayes with Reservations (Lee, Reyes Oda). Noes, 1 (Kong). Excused, none.

SCRep. 483 Housing on H.B. No. 417

The purpose of this measure is to establish a Housing Efficiency and Innovation Subaccount within the Rental Housing Revolving Fund to be used for providing loans or credit enhancements to certain projects on state or county-owned land and state-funded housing projects.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Holomua Collaborative; Title Guaranty of Hawai'i; HPM Building Supply; Mana Up; Tori Richard, Ltd.; and Hawai'i Gas. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that the housing crisis in Hawaii continues to drive families out of the State in search of affordable housing. The Rental Housing Revolving Fund provides equity gap low-interest loans to qualified owners and developers building affordable housing. However, your Committee further finds that despite the success of the Rental Housing Revolving Fund, existing prioritization of projects limit the breadth of projects and residents who can benefit from the Rental Housing Revolving Fund. Your Committee believes that increasing the types of projects that can be funded by the Rental Housing Revolving Fund would directly address the lack of affordable and stable rental housing in the State.

Your Committee notes that the main purpose and intent of the Rental Housing Revolving Fund is focused on affordable rental housing projects, rather than for-sale projects. However, your Committee believes that there should be further discussion on whether there is value in increasing the flexibility of the Rental Housing Revolving Fund so that its funds can be used for affordable rental projects and for-sale projects to ensure that there is sufficient funding to help families achieve homeownership.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that loans from the Housing Efficiency and Innovation Subaccount are to be used solely for rental housing projects, instead of for-sale and rental housing projects;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 417, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 417, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kila).

SCRep. 484 Housing on H.B. No. 373

The purpose of this measure is to repeal the sunset provision related to the counties' authorization to develop, construct, finance, refinance, or otherwise provide mixed-use developments.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; one member of the Maui County Council; and Office of Housing of the City and County and Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, clarified the counties' powers relating to developing, constructing, financing, refinancing, or otherwise providing mixed-use developments. This was to align the powers of the counties to that of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to allow each county to implement their general plans and create communities that offer multiple housing options. Your Committee believes that this authority should remain permanent to ensure that the counties have all the powers necessary to provide affordable housing options to their residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 373, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 373, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kila).

SCRep. 485 Housing on H.B. No. 1009

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Codify the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund Equity Pilot Program as a permanent program; and
- (2) Allow partial or full repayment of Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund interim loans by eligible developers in the form of unit equity through the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund Equity Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the high cost of housing is causing Hawaii residents, especially those in professions facing a shortage, such as teachers, health care workers, and law enforcement officers, to leave the State. To address this, the Legislature enacted Act 92, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, which established the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund Equity Pilot Program (Program). The Program allows residents to purchase a for-sale housing unit with Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation's equity investment in the unit. Your Committee further finds that developers have shown strong interest in the Program, with three projects already participating. This measure will build on the success of the pilot program and make it permanent for the benefit of future projects.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation may purchase equity in for-sale housing development projects secured by a recorded instrument as determined by the Corporation;
- (2) Deleting language that would have authorized an eligible developer to repay, in the form of equity, a part or all of the interim financing made under the Program;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1009, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1009, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kila).

SCRep. 486 Housing on H.B. No. 529

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to secure a line of credit or other instrument of indebtedness for the Bond Volume Cap Recycling Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that a line of credit is needed for private activity bond recycling to provide liquidity and ensure that funds are readily available to pay off existing bonds as they mature or are redeemed. The line of credit acts as a financial bridge, maintaining continuity in funding and avoiding disruptions in the financing structure, which is critical for compliance with federal law for qualified bonds. This measure will allow the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to retire old bonds while waiting for new bonds to be issued or for cash flows from the underlying projects to become available.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation may secure revenue bonds as a line of credit or other instrument of indebtedness for the Bond Volume Cap Recycling Program;
- (2) Changing the line of credit or other instrument of indebtedness amount to an unspecified amount; and

(3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider a line of credit or other instrument of indebtedness amount of \$300,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 529, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 529, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kila).

SCRep. 487 Housing on H.B. No. 833

The purpose of this measure is to support the expansion of community land trusts by authorizing, and appropriating funds for, the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to establish a Community Land Trust Equity Pilot Program to provide community land trusts with a low-cost line of credit for housing purposes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; County of Hawai'i Office of Housing and Community Development; Nā Hale O Maui; Kohala Community Land Trust; Lahaina Community Land Trust; LIMBY Hawai'i; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that community land trusts are effective tools for producing and preserving permanently affordable housing, fostering generational wealth, and enhancing neighborhood stability. By removing housing from the speculative market and providing shared equity opportunities, community land trusts help prevent displacement and support low- to moderate-income families. This measure authorizes a pilot program to expand these efforts, which can help preserve long-term housing affordability in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to the unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$5,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 833, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 833, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kila).

SCRep. 488 Housing on H.B. No. 1432

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Add loan funds administered by Nonprofit Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) for certain for-sale affordable housing projects to the list of loan priorities for the Affordable Homeownership Revolving Fund; and
- (2) Expand use of monies in the revolving fund to allow financing as matching funds for CDFIs to mobilize other funding sources.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that this measure helps more CDFIs access additional capital from federal, private, and philanthropic sources, which will amplify the impact of the Affordable Homeownership Revolving Fund and ensure broader financial support for projects serving low- and moderate-income families, in alignment with the State's commitment to increasing affordable housing availability.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1432, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1432, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kila).

SCRep. 489 Housing on H.B. No. 1428

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to enhance the capacity of Hawaii's United States Department of Housing and Urban Development-certified housing counseling agencies to provide housing counseling, renter education, homebuyer education, and eviction and foreclosure intervention to certain low- and moderate-income households.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Hawaiian Community Assets; and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that more support mechanisms are needed for the State's Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) households. ALICE households have income above the federal poverty line but below the basic cost of living; in Hawaii forty-eight percent of households fall into the ALICE category or below.

Your Committee further finds that providing United States Department of Housing and Urban Development-certified housing counseling agencies helps expand outreach to ALICE households and other underserved communities and ensures more residents have access to critical housing resources, and enhanced service delivery that provides timely, effective counseling to prevent housing crises like foreclosures or evictions.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$2,500,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1428, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1428, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kila).

SCRep. 490 Housing on H.B. No. 432

The purpose of this measure is to provide a dedicated source of funds to finance mixed-income rental housing projects.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Office of Housing of the City and County of Honolulu; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Holomua Collaborative; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Hawai'i YIMBY; Michaels Development; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Title Guaranty of Hawai'i; HPM Building Supply; Hawai'i Gas; Mana Up; and Tori Richard, Ltd. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and LIMBY Hawai'i.

Your Committee finds that while the Rental Housing Revolving Fund has two priority funding groups, limited funding dedicates most of the funds to projects or units for households with income at or below sixty percent of the area median income. Your Committee further finds that private development of rental housing for households earning between sixty percent and one hundred forty percent of the area median income remains financially unfeasible without additional public support. This measure establishes a dedicated funding source to address the gap, ensuring mixed-income rental housing projects can move forward and help local working families remain in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Defining "perpetual" as the life of the project;
- (2) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount and changing the amount of funds the Director of Finance may transfer into the Rental Housing Revolving Fund Mixed-Income Subaccount to an unspecified amount;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$75,000,000 into and out of the Mixed-Income Subaccount of the Rental Housing Revolving Fund.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 432, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 432, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kila).

SCRep. 491 Housing on H.B. No. 374

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to take into consideration additional preferential factors of project applicants when supplying housing or assistance in obtaining housing;
- (2) Require a certain percentage of available units to be set aside for state or county employees in projects developed or administered by the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; and
- (3) Require the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to determine the order of preferences and rank applicants, select applicants based on application date, and validate the preference status of applicants.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from two members of the Kaua'i County Council and Hawai'i State Association of Counties. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Your Committee finds that the existing housing preference criteria employed by the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation have been instrumental in addressing housing needs across the State. However, as the State's communities evolve, it becomes imperative to reassess and enhance these criteria to ensure they align with the diverse and changing needs of residents. This measure is intended to broaden the existing housing preference criteria, thereby creating a more comprehensive framework that accounts for various elements influencing housing needs.

However, your Committee has heard the concerns raised in testimony by the Department of the Attorney General that certain provisions in this measure appear to impose a durational residency requirement that may be subject to challenge as a violation of the right to travel protected by the United States Constitution.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have required the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to take into consideration whether an applicant is a returning resident that left for academic reasons and returned to the State within two years;
- (2) Deleting language that would have required an unspecified percent of available units developed by Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to be set aside for state or county employees;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 374, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 374, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kila).

SCRep. 492 Housing on H.B. No. 1411

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to allow affordable housing projects to grant preferences in the sale or lease of housing units to applicants who live or work within five miles of the project.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Your Committee finds granting a preference for eligible applicants who live or work within five miles of an affordable housing project supports the creation of neighborhoods where residents can live, work, and play.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1411, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1411, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kila).

SCRep. 493 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 1405

The purpose of this measure is to establish specific deadlines within the facilitated application process to obtain a permit and require the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to establish certain resources and processes to help streamline permit applications.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Charter Communications; Hawaiian Telcom; Hawaii Food Industry Association; NFIB Hawaii Chapter; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Hawaii Operating Engineers Industry Stabilization Fund Political Action Committee; Housing Hawai'i's Future; and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that certain land or water use activities or construction projects that require state or county permits are required, in the case of state agencies, and are encouraged, in the case of county agencies, to use the facilitated application process under the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. Your Committee further finds that the facilitated application process can subject applicants to long waiting periods, delaying housing, industrial, and commercial projects. This measure addresses this issue by establishing specific deadlines within the facilitated application process and requiring the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to establish certain resources for streamlining applications.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Allowing applicants for at least one state and one county permit to request the facilitated application process;
- (2) Adding an annual reporting requirement for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism on the status of the facilitated application process;
- (3) Changing the number of positions established to an unspecified number;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$125,000 and one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) position.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1405, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1405, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Tam).

SCRep. 494 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 1406

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Intergovernmental Task Force for Permit Simplification within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to identify actions taken, challenges encountered, and legislative measures necessary to facilitate, expedite, and coordinate state and intergovernmental development permit processes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Public Utilities Commission; Hawaiian Telcom; Hawaii Food Industry Association; NFIB Hawaii Chapter; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Charter Communications; Housing Hawai'i's Future; and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that there is a need to simplify and expedite the permitting process in the State in order to reduce delays and create a more predictable environment for investment and growth. This measure addresses this need by establishing the Intergovernmental Task Force for Permit Simplification to facilitate, expedite, and coordinate state and intergovernmental development permit processes.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Establishing the task force within the House of Representatives instead of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, and deleting the reporting requirement to the Legislature;

- (2) Adding an additional member to the task force to serve as chair;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$125,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1406, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1406, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Tam).

SCRep. 495 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 1407

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to establish a Chamber of Commerce Grant Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Hawaii Food Industry Association; NFIB, Hawaii Chapter; Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Charter Communications; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Hawaii; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that there is a need to bolster business innovation and economic development in the State. Your Committee further finds chambers of commerce, with their vast networks of small businesses, are well positioned to support new entrepreneurs in the State. Your Committee believes that this measure will help encourage economic development in the State by establishing the Chamber of Commerce Grant Program to provide qualifying chambers of commerce with grants for developing and cultivating entrepreneurs, with a focus on mentoring, workshops, and skill development.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the program is a competitive grant program and that certain standards and conditions under chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, do not apply to funds received under the program;
- (2) Requiring applicants to provide proof that they have raised at least one-fifth of the grant amount requested, to be used for the same purposes as a grant awarded through the program and, upon receipt of grant funds, provide a \$1 match for every \$5 of grant funds received;
- (3) Adding an appropriation for an unspecified sum;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1407, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1407, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Tam).

SCRep. 496 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 454

The purpose of this measure is to promote economic recovery and diversification by:

- (1) Establishing state goals for economic growth fueled by innovation and technology;
- (2) Appropriating funds to the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation to support programs that address those goals; and
- (3) Requiring the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation to submit annual reports over three years to the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Hawai'i Technology Development Corporation; Ten Tomorrow; Hawaii Fish Company Inc.; Watanabe Floral, Inc.; HNu Photonics; HI-Spectral, LLC; Hawaii Biotech, Inc.; Ai.Fish; Makai Ocean Engineering; The Art Source Inc.; Oceanit; Raiz Tortillas; Simonpietri Enterprises LLC; Ba-le Inc.; Normal Robotics; PacMar Technologies; Purple Mai'a Foundation; Blue Startups; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Holomua Collaborative; Hawai'i Small Business Development Center; Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce; Imua Onipa'a; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Hawaii Food Industry Association; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that to ensure the long-term stability of Hawaii's economy, there is a need to support economic diversification efforts that promote innovation. This measure addresses this need by establishing state goals for economic growth and diversification and appropriating funds to the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation to support programs that address those goals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding a goal to address economic diversification through import replacement; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 454, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 454, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 497 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 457

The purpose of this measure is to require state and local law enforcement agencies to notify an individual of their rights when in Hawaii law enforcement agency custody before any interview with Immigration and Customs Enforcement on matters regarding immigration violations.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; one member of the Honolulu City Council; IATSE Local 665; UNITE HERE Local 5; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights; Indivisible Hawaii; The Legal Clinic; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; HCANSpeaks!; Fujiwara & Rosenbaum, LLC; Hawaii Friends of Civil Rights; COFACAN; Oahu Filipino Community Council; Filipino Chamber of Commerce; Roots Reborn; Hawai'i Democratic Party; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; A.L.O.H.A. Latinos; Hawai'i Workers Center; Imua Alliance; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaiian Islands Republican Women and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that it is essential to ensure that all residents, regardless of immigration status, are provided appropriate due process and civil rights protections. This measure addresses this need by requiring state and local law enforcement agencies to notify an individual of their rights when in the agency's custody before any interview with Immigration and Customs Enforcement on matters regarding immigration violations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring accommodations to be made for law enforcement agencies to provide written consent forms to individuals who speak languages for which the Office of Language Access cannot provide translations;
- (2) Adding a provision to exclude the public disclosure of demographic information that is reasonably likely to identify an individual to whom Immigration and Customs Enforcement has been provided access; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 457, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 457, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 498 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 476

The purpose of this measure is to increase the capital gains tax rate for individuals, estates, and trusts to nine percent and the alternative capital gains tax rate for corporations to five percent.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from IATSE Local 665; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; Education Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that eighty percent of all long-term capital gains in the State are earned by the wealthiest group of taxpayers, who have incomes greater than \$400,000, exacerbating the State's income inequality. This measure addresses this issue by increasing the capital gains tax rate to nine percent and the alternative capital gains tax for corporations to five percent.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee notes, as a reference for potential fiscal impact of this measure, estimates made in 2021 of revenue that would be generated by the same capital gains tax rate increases proposed by this measure are as follows:

- (1) \$53,700,000 for fiscal year 2025;
- (2) \$55,500,000 for fiscal year 2026; and
- (3) \$57,000,000 for fiscal year 2027.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 476, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 476, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Matsumoto). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 499 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 577

The purpose of this measure is to authorize a tax credit for five years for businesses that pay the public transportation costs of employees.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Retail Merchants of Hawaii and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that increased public transportation use will lead to reduced traffic congestion, greenhouse gas emissions, and wear on roads and infrastructure. This measure seeks to increase public transportation usage by authorizing a tax credit for businesses that pay the public transportation costs of employees.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the amount of the tax credit to an unspecified percentage; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes the suggestion raised in the Department of Taxation's testimony to offer the tax credit at a rate of less than one hundred percent of the amount spent by the employer to purchase employees' fares or passes, in order to limit the potential for abuse and waste.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 577, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 577, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 500 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 949

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify that a partner or member that is a partnership or limited liability company that has been allocated a Low-Income Housing Tax Credit may either further allocate the credit or transfer, sell, or assign all or a portion of the credit to any taxpayer; and
- (2) Extend the sunset date of Act 129, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016, relating to the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation and Chamber of Commerce Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that there is an urgent need to increase the availability of low-income housing in the State and encourage the development of these projects. Your Committee further finds that the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit should be amended to make the credit more accessible to investors and encourage greater private sector participation in affordable housing projects. This measure addresses this need by allowing partnerships and limited liability companies to transfer, sell, or assign credits to any person and extending the sunset date for the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit to 2032.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that a partner or member may allocate the credit or transfer, sell, or assign the credit to any person;
- (2) Clarifying that the transferee must have received the transfer or assignment of the tax credit prior to the date a tax return claiming the tax credit is filed;
- (3) Requiring the transferor to notify the Department of Taxation, in a manner prescribed by the Department, of the transfer, sale, or assignment at least thirty days prior to the transferee claiming the tax credits;
- (4) Specifying that it shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 949, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 949, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 501 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 303

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Expand the definitions of "preceptor" and "volunteer-based supervised clinical training rotation" to improve accessibility for providers to receive income tax credits for acting as preceptors, including removing "primary care" from the criteria to qualify as a preceptor;
- (2) Add dietitians, physician assistants, and social workers to the list of preceptors and eligible students;
- (3) Expand eligibility for the tax credit to include accredited residency programs that require preceptor support; and
- (4) Add the Director of Health and residency programs with eligible students to the Preceptor Credit Assurance Committee.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Corporate Board of Directors; University of Hawai'i System; John A. Burns School of Medicine; University of Hawai'i School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene; Thompson School of Social Work and Public Health; University of Hawai'i Hilo Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy and School of Nursing; Hawai'i State Center for Nursing; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawai'i Affiliate of the American College of Nurse-Midwives; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawaii State Chiropractic Association; Hawai'i Academy of Physician Assistants; The Queen's Health Systems; Hawaii Pharmacists Association; Hawai'i Association of Professional Nurses; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the Healthcare Preceptor Income Tax Credit is intended to incentivize volunteer preceptors to offer instruction, training, and supervision to students and residents. Your Committee further finds that eligibility for the tax credit is restrictive, with many classes of health care providers excluded. This measure addresses this issue by expanding eligibility for the tax credit.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 303, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 303, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 502 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 242

The purpose of this measure is to establish a working group within the Hawaii State Energy Office to examine how to maximize the recycling and reuse of electric vehicle batteries and recommend electric vehicle battery management practices.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Hawaii State Energy Office; County of Hawai'i Department of Environmental Management; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Coalition Earth; Redwood Materials; Alliance for Automotive Innovation; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Radius Recycling.

Your Committee finds that electric vehicle usage in the State has grown dramatically, with a twenty-three percent increase in the number of registered electric vehicles from October 2023 to October 2024. Your Committee further finds that as electric vehicle usage increases, more electric vehicle batteries will enter the waste stream, necessitating proper recycling and disposal practices. This measure addresses this need by establishing a working group to examine how to maximize the recycling and reuse of electric vehicle batteries and recommend electric vehicle battery management practices.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding a representative from the Hawaii Natural Energy Institute to the working group;
- (2) Clarifying that the working group will include a representative from the battery energy storage industry;

- (3) Adding a representative from a company specializing in the recycling of electric vehicle batteries to the individuals invited to serve as members of the working group;
- (4) Changing the deadline for the report to the Legislature to twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2027;
- (5) Clarifying that the report to the Legislature shall include an analysis of the reuse of electric vehicle batteries as potential stationary energy storage systems;
- (6) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (7) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 242, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 242, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 503 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 344

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the design of all new state building construction where parking is to be included to provide that at least twenty-five percent of parking stalls be electric vehicle charger-ready;
- (2) Require the Hawaii State Energy Office to conduct a survey and identify certain high-priority state facilities that include parking to be retrofitted to include electric vehicle charging infrastructure;
- (3) Establish a goal of the State to retrofit state facilities to be electric vehicle charger-ready; and
- (4) Appropriate funds to the Department of Accounting and General Services to assess the costs of, and install, retrofits and electric vehicle charging systems at high-priority state facilities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Department of Accounting and General Services; Hawaii State Energy Office; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Hawaiian Electric; Ulupono Initiative; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; 350Hawaii.org; Coalition Earth; Green Party of Hawai'i; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; RERides EV, LLC; Alliance for Automotive Innovation; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that electric vehicle usage has greatly increased in recent years, with electric vehicles accounting for fifteen percent of all new car sales in 2024. Your Committee further finds that the State must support the transition to electric vehicles by ensuring that adequate charging infrastructure is available. This measure addresses this need by establishing certain requirements and goals for state facilities to provide electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the start date on which all new state building construction must meet certain electric vehicle charging requirements to July 1, 2026;
- (2) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount and removing the appropriation for fiscal year 2025-2026;
- (3) Changing the expending entity to the Hawaii State Energy Office;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$300,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 to assess the costs of, and install, retrofits and electric vehicle charging systems at high-priority state facilities.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 344, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 344, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 504 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 733

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Remove the loophole that allows property owners to electrify fewer spaces than required if they fulfill the requirement in aggregate across different parking lots; and
- (2) Provide the counties the clear authority to regulate electric vehicle charging systems on parking lots with fewer than one hundred stalls.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State Energy Office; Hawai'i Energy; Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association; Ulupono Initiative; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; 350Hawaii.org; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Retail Merchants of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that in order for the State to effectively transition to increased electric vehicle usage, there is a need for a widespread and reliable network of charging infrastructure. Your Committee further finds that Act 75, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, was intended to expedite the rollout of electric vehicle charging infrastructure by providing the counties enforcement authority over charging and maintenance requirements. However, a loophole exists in which owners of multiple properties are allowed to provide charging infrastructure on fewer spaces than required in an individual parking lot if the number of charging stations is met in aggregate. This measure addresses this issue by removing the loophole and providing counties the authority to regulate electric vehicle charging systems on parking lots with fewer than one hundred stalls.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 733, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 733, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 505 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 1017

The purpose of this measure is to repeal the Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

Your Committee finds that the Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force was created in 2018 in order to address greenhouse gas emissions in the State. The Task Force was appropriated \$150,000 for research purposes, which was used to initiate three contracts with experts in soil science, farming best practices, and nature-based carbon sequestration. Since then, the Task Force has not been appropriated further funding and lacks the staff to manage research contracts. Accordingly, this measure repeals the Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1017, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1017, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 506 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 1022

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Include the promotion of critical infrastructure protection and emergency management, response, and recovery in the Energy Data Collection Program; and
- (2) Add the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security to the list of agencies that may examine the energy industry information statements.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Law Enforcement; Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency; and Hawaii State Energy Office.

Your Committee finds that the energy sector is vital for emergency preparedness, particularly in regard to emergency communication systems and powering backups during natural disasters. Your Committee further finds that policies on energy data could be adjusted to better ensure that critical infrastructure protection and emergency management are prioritized and that certain agencies are able to examine energy industry information. This measure addresses this need by including the promotion of critical infrastructure protection and emergency management, response, and recovery in the Energy Data Collection Program and adding the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security to the list of agencies that may examine the energy industry information statements.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1022, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1022, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 507 Transportation on H.B. No. 1164

The purpose of this measure is to restore the Highway Revenue Bond authorization for the Department of Transportation for highway capital improvement projects authorized in Act 164, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, as amended by Act 230, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that this bill will ensure the Department of Transportation can issue highway revenue bonds to fund highway capital improvement projects.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to work with the Department of Transportation and Department of Budget and Finance on this matter.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1164, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1164, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 508 Transportation on H.B. No. 537

The purpose of this measure is to require all operators and passengers of two-wheeled motorized vehicles to wear safety helmets with securely fastened chin straps when on highways, streets, roadways, or any other public property in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; AAA Hawai'i; and Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that despite advancements in vehicle safety, operators and passengers of two-wheeled motorized vehicles remain particularly vulnerable to severe injuries and fatalities due to their lack of protective barriers. Existing laws do not adequately address this heightened risk, leading to preventable deaths and life-altering head injuries. Your Committee further finds that studies consistently demonstrate the effectiveness of helmets in reducing fatalities and preventing head injuries.

Your Committee notes that a blanket helmet requirement affecting multiple two-wheeled motorized vehicles may not be necessary. Your Committee does, however, recognize the importance of requiring helmets for motorcycles.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have required all operators and passengers of two-wheeled motorized vehicles to wear certain safety helmets and all associated language, while maintaining:
 - (A) Language that repeals the exception for when a person is not required to wear a safety helmet when operating a moped or motor scooter leased from a rental company;
 - (B) The helmet requirement for operators and passengers of motorcycles; and
 - (C) Language that prohibits the rental or leasing of an electric foot scooter to a person unless they wear a safety helmet;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 537, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 537, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 509 Culture & Arts on H.B. No. 1025

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Designate the Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange Between East and West, Inc., as the State of Hawaii Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange Between East and West, Inc. (East-West Center);
- (2) Exempt general revenues of the State of Hawaii received by the East-West Center from the requirements of chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and
- (3) Establish criteria the East-West Center must meet to receive state funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; East-West Center; and Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that in 1960, federal law authorized the establishment of a center in Hawaii for cultural and technical interchange between the East and West. In 1975, the Legislature established an educational non-profit public corporation through Act 82, Session Laws of Hawaii 1975 (Act 82) that would come to be known as the East-West Center. Act 82 specified the purposes of the East-West Center, which included, among other things, the promotion of better relations and understanding between the United States and the nations of the East.

Your Committee further finds that since its establishment, the East-West Center has made a profound impact on the State's communities by hosting international scholars, conducting research on critical regional issues, and facilitating dialogue among leaders from various sectors, which has attracted global attention and enhanced the State's reputation as a hub for international engagement. Your Committee also finds that the East-West Center has served as a diplomatic resource for the State, United States, and Asia-Pacific region and fills a vital role in promoting better relations between the United States and nations of Asia and the Pacific.

Your Committee believes that the East-West Center has served and continues to serve a public purpose and that granting authorization to the East-West Center to receive appropriations of state general revenues, exempt from the requirements of chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, complies with the public purpose requirement of Article VII, section 4, of the Hawaii State Constitution.

Your Committee has amended this measure accordingly by:

- (1) Inserting legislative findings in the preamble that the East-West Center serves a public purpose and that granting authorization to the East-West Center to receive appropriations of state general revenues, exempt from the requirements of chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, complies with the public purpose requirement of Article VII, section 4, of the Hawaii State Constitution;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1025, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1025, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 510 Health/Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 1462

The purpose of this measure is to expand the Crisis Intervention and Diversion Services Program to include at least two sites on the island of Oahu, including one program in west Oahu.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Department of Health; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Community Alliance on Prisons; Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center; and two individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committees find that Act 86, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, established a Crisis Intervention and Diversion Services Program within the Department of Health to expand existing services and divert those with mental health issues to appropriate health care services. Your Committees further find that homelessness is a significant issue on Oahu, with a noticeable presence of unsheltered individuals, some of whom suffer from issues relating to drugs, alcohol,

or mental illness. Your Committees believe that establishing additional crisis intervention sites on Oahu will create vital access points for diverting individuals with mental health and substance use disorders away from the criminal justice system and toward appropriate health care services.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Department of Health to establish a site on Oahu in an area that has been affected by a disproportionate number of individuals with mental health conditions, substance use disorders, and homelessness, rather than in a specific zip code;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committees respectfully request your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider adding in an appropriation for the Department of Health to support the opening of an additional crisis intervention site. Your Committees note that the existing crisis intervention site in Iwilei has a budgeted operational cost of \$4,288,000 for fiscal year 2025, not inclusive of startup costs. Your Committees also note that the actual cost for the second site may vary significantly based on the location and community need of the new site.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Health and Human Services & Homelessness that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1462, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1462, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Health: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Human Services & Homelessness: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 511 Health/Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 700

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require all health care providers who accept Medicare to provide a cognitive assessment as part of the Medicare Part B annual wellness visit for Medicare beneficiaries sixty-five years of age or older, with certain exceptions;
- (2) Require all health care providers to submit certain information to the Executive Office on Aging relating to cognitive assessments; and
- (3) Require the Executive Office on Aging to report de-identified aggregated data to the Legislature on annual basis and appropriate funds for this purpose.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the State Health Planning and Development Agency; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; Alzheimer's Association - Hawaii; AARP Hawai'i; Hawai'i Public Health Association; Hawaii Parkinson Association; and numerous individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Executive Office on Aging; and Healthcare Association of Hawaii.

Your Committees find that Alzheimer's disease is one of the top ten leading causes of death in the United States, with ninety percent of cases occurring in individuals aged sixty-five or older. Your Committees further find that early detection and diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias enables timely intervention, better care planning, and access to treatments that can slow the disease's progression. Your Committees note that Medicare beneficiaries who have opted to take Part B coverage already receive an annual cognitive assessment as part of their supplemental coverage. Your Committees believe that offering cognitive assessment tests as a standard part of the health care plan for an individual sixty-five years or older is a crucial part of the State's strategic plan to address Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. However, your Committees recognize that, due to the potential magnitude of this bill, it is more prudent at this time to establish a pilot program rather than require immediate implementation of these requirements, which will allow the Executive Office on Aging to best determine what would be needed for a statewide rollout.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Establishing a Cognitive Assessments for Medicare Beneficiaries Pilot Program within the Executive Office on Aging, rather than statutorily requiring all health care providers to provide cognitive assessments for Medicare Part B beneficiaries;
- (2) Requiring the Executive Office on Aging to collaborate with a health care system for purposes of the pilot program, including identifying health care providers to participate in the program and offer and conduct cognitive assessments to Medicare Part B beneficiaries;
- (3) Permitting, rather than requiring, participating health care providers to report certain data to the Executive Office on Aging;
- (4) Requiring the Executive Office on Aging to secure the transmission and storage of information reported as part of the pilot program rather than requiring the Office to adopt rules for this purpose;
- (5) Changing the effective date to January 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committees respectfully request your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$150,000.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Health and Human Services & Homelessness that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 700, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 700, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Health: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Human Services & Homelessness: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 512 Health on H.B. No. 1004

The purpose of this measure is to update the State's advance health care directive laws by adopting the Uniform Health-Care Decisions Act (2023) in amended form.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Governor; Department of Attorney General; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; State of Hawai'i Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Disability Rights Center and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Corporate Board of Directors.

Your Committee finds that the Uniform Law Commission approved and recommended the Uniform Health-Care Decisions Act (2023) for enactment in all states. Your Committee further finds that although the State's existing laws address advance directives broadly, the Uniform Health-Care Decisions Act (2023) provides a more comprehensive framework for a variety of advance directives, including advance mental health care directives. Your Committee believes that adopting the Uniform Health Care Decisions Act (2023) in amended form will simplify the process to execute an advance health care directive.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1004, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1004, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 513 Health on H.B. No. 1379

The purpose of this measure is to exempt foreign medical graduates from the State's medical licensure residency requirements, under certain circumstances.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Health Planning and Development Agency; Philippine Medical Association of Hawai'i; Mel A. Ona, M.D., Inc., dba Ohana Gastroenterology; MDX Hawaii; World Education Services; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Medical Board; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawaii Medical Association; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State faces a significant physician shortage, particularly in primary care and specialty fields. Your Committee further finds that some foreign medical graduates are unable to become licensed in the State, even if they practice in a high demand specialty, because they did not complete a residency that meets the requirements of the State's existing licensure laws. Your Committee believes that allowing foreign medical graduates who have received training comparable to that of American or Canadian medical school graduates will create an alternative pathway to licensure while maintaining high quality and safety standards.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring foreign medical graduates to be graduates of schools listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools;
- (2) Requiring foreign medical graduates to demonstrate a proficiency in the English language;
- (3) Amending the types of training a foreign medical graduate may substitute in lieu of one year of residency training;
- (4) Requiring foreign medical graduates to pass the United States Medical Licensing Examination;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1379, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1379, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 514 Health on H.B. No. 1112

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a Hepatitis Prevention Program within the Department of Health.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Hep Free Hawaii; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals.

Your Committee finds that hepatitis B and C viral infections are associated with earlier deaths and higher death rates in the State. Your Committee further finds that existing strategies such as universal hepatitis screening and immunization; culturally-based care coordination; and safe and effective treatments, such as the hepatitis C cure, can be used to eliminate hepatitis B and C in Hawaii. Your Committee believes that providing funding and establishing positions to address hepatitis B and C, as proposed by this measure, will allow the State to scale up its existing work for the prevention and treatment of hepatitis B and C in Hawaii. Your Committee notes that funding the Department of Health's efforts now is important as the current threats to federal public health funding endanger the Department's existing hepatitis elimination efforts.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Hepatitis Prevention Program is for the prevention of hepatitis B and hepatitis C;
- (2) Changing the number of positions to an unspecified number;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$545,000 and the establishment of five full-time equivalent (5.0 FTE) positions.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1112, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1112, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 515 Health on H.B. No. 951

The purpose of this measure is to allow a patient to be prescribed a three-day supply of opiates via telehealth if the patient has been seen in-person by a health care provider in the same medical group as the prescribing physician.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i; Aloha Green Apothecary; and ATA Action.

Your Committee finds that existing law requires a patient to first establish a physician-patient relationship with their prescribing physician via an in-person consultation before the patient can be prescribed opioids via telehealth. Your Committee further finds that there are times when a patient requires immediate pain relief, but the patient's primary provider may be unavailable to write an opioid prescription for the patient. This measure is intended to allow patients to receive immediate pain relief even when their regular provider is unavailable while still ensuring appropriate and safe pain management and minimizing the risk of misuse and addiction.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the patient to have been seen in-person by a physician, rather than a health care provider;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 951, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 951, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 516 Health on H.B. No. 1115

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Universal Immunization Purchase Special Fund to finance the distribution of immunizations to qualifying health care providers free of charge.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; American Academy of Pediatrics, Hawai'i Chapter; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Children's Doctors L.L.C.; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Biotechnology Innovation Organization; Fathers and Mothers for Children Kauai Chapter; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawai'i.

Your Committee finds that "Universal Purchase" programs are programs that enable states to leverage bulk purchasing and federal immunization programs to establish a streamlined procurement, oversight, and distribution system for all recommended vaccines for children and adults. Your Committee further finds that the purchase of immunizations is done by the State and private health care providers or health systems. This practice requires private health care providers to take on considerable costs, as they must pay for their immunizations up front in addition to costs incurred for securing and storing the immunizations. Your Committee believes that establishing a Universal Immunization Funding Program in Hawaii will reduce the financial and administrative burden borne by private health care providers and systems and lower incidences of immunization-preventable diseases by increasing access to immunizations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the definition of "immunization";
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation of between \$2,800,000 and \$3,600,000 and an additional one-time appropriation of \$934,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 for startup costs for the Universal Immunization Funding Program.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1115, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1115, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 2 (Alcos, Garcia). Excused, none.

SCRep. 517 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 1100

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Update the name of the Neighbor Islands Blind and Visually Impaired Service Pilot Program by replacing the term "visually impaired" with the term "low vision"; and
- (2) Clarify the Pilot Program's implementation timeframes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services; National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that access to essential services for blind and low vision residents, particularly on the neighbor islands, remains limited. Act 253, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, established the Neighbor Islands Blind and Visually Impaired Service Pilot Program to bridge the gaps in services for blind and low vision residents across the State, particularly focusing on those living on the neighbor islands. This measure allows the Pilot Program to continue its efforts to empower blind and low vision individuals to live more independently and participate fully in their communities.

Your Committee notes that an appropriation may be needed for the staff, contracting services, and equipment necessary to implement the Neighbor Islands Blind and Low Vision Service Pilot Program.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Replacing references to "visually impaired" with the term "low vision" in the preamble of Act 253, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and

(3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1100, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1100, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 518 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 384

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the penalty for promoting minor-produced sexual images to a felony if the person is more than three years older than the minor;
- (2) Extend the probationary term for felony obscenity offenses;
- (3) Toll the statute of limitations for obscenity offenses during a victim's minority; and
- (4) Require sex offender registration for felony obscenity offenses involving minors.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu; Honolulu Police Department; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender.

Your Committee finds that the rise of digital platforms has increased the prevalence of the distribution of minor-produced explicit images, creating an urgent need for stronger legal deterrents. Often, predators posing as peers manipulate minors into sending compromising images, then use threats to demand further images or other forms of compliance. Existing laws inadequately address these cases, particularly when no financial extortion is involved. By increasing penalties and protections for minors, this measure emphasizes accountability and discourages the exploitation of minors in online spaces.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 384, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 384, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 519 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 703

The purpose of this measure is to extend the sunset date for the State Rent Supplement Program for Kupuna to June 30, 2028.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging; Kūpuna Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; AARP Hawai'i; and Democratic Party of Hawai'i.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's aging population faces an increasing risk of homelessness due to rising rental costs and limited financial resources. Many kupuna rely on fixed incomes, such as Social Security, and are forced to make difficult financial choices that can negatively impact their overall well-being. Without stable housing, they may experience worsened physical and mental health, creating additional strain on health care and social services. This measure addresses these concerns by extending the sunset date for the State Rent Supplement Program for Kupuna, ensuring continued support for eligible seniors at risk of homelessness.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 703, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 703, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 520 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 689

The purpose of this measure is to establish safe harbor protections for survivors of sexual exploitation who seek medical or law enforcement assistance.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Honolulu Police Department; Imua Alliance; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that sex trafficking is a pervasive crime that preys on society's most vulnerable, including minors and historically marginalized communities. Survivors of sexual exploitation often face immense barriers to seeking help, including fear of prosecution, social stigma, and prolonged trauma. This measure addresses these issues by establishing safe harbor protections for survivors who seek medical or law enforcement assistance, ensuring they are not criminalized for their own exploitation.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 689, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 689, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 521 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 1283

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an exemption from mediation in paternity proceedings where there are allegations of domestic abuse; and
- (2) Clarify the exemption from mediation in divorce proceedings as it relates to domestic abuse.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that the legal system plays a critical role in ensuring that survivors of domestic violence are not further harmed during legal proceedings, particularly in paternity and custody cases. Without proper safeguards, mediation can become another avenue for an abuser to exert control, creating additional emotional and psychological distress for survivors. This measure addresses these concerns by establishing an exemption from mediation in paternity proceedings where there are allegations of domestic abuse while also clarifying similar exemptions in divorce cases, ensuring that legal proceedings do not become a tool for further abuse.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1283, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1283, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 522 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 963

The purpose of this measure is to establish strict liability for crimes against elders with respect to the attendant circumstance that the victim was sixty years of age or older.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu; AARP Hawai'i; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender.

Your Committee finds that elderly individuals are particularly vulnerable to violent crimes due to physical, cognitive, and social factors. Under existing law, assault against a person aged sixty or older is subject to enhanced penalties, but prosecutors must prove that the offender "knew or should have known" the victim's age. This requirement often hinders prosecution, as many assaults on elders involve random acts of violence where intent regarding age is difficult to establish. By strengthening protections for elders, this measure ensures that perpetrators are held accountable for the actual harm they inflict and further reinforces the State's commitment to safeguarding its elderly population.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 963, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 963, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 523 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 244

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Department of Human Services to collaborate with community-based organizations to address the need for social services in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Youth Services Network; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Share Your Mana; Community Alliance on Prisons; Hina Mauka; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i True Cost Coalition; Aloha United Way; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Child & Family Service; Epic 'Ohana; Goodwill Hawaii; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; The Institute for Human Services, Inc.; Lanakila Pacific; The Meditation Center of the Pacific, Inc.; Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.; Partners in Development Foundation; Responsive Caregivers of Hawaii; Samaritan Counseling Center Hawaii; YMCA of Honolulu; Parents And Children Together; YWCA Kaua'i; Adult Friends for Youth; AlohaCare; Hawai'i Foodbank; Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services and one individual.

Your Committee finds that vulnerable populations in Hawaii, including individuals experiencing homelessness, children, and those in need of mental health or social services, face increasing challenges due to rising service demands and stagnant government contract funding. Community-based organizations play a critical role in delivering these essential services, yet many struggle with inadequate funding that fails to cover full program costs. Without increased support from the State, these organizations may be forced to reduce services or cease operations. This measure provides increased funding to the Department of Human Services to strengthen partnerships with community-based organizations, ensuring continued access to vital programs that support the well-being and stability of Hawaii's most vulnerable residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language to ensure equitable distribution of allocated funds to the various divisions within the Department of Human Services with contracted community-based organizations;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$21,294,990 for child protective services (HMS 301); \$205,985 for adult protective and community care services (HMS 601); \$1,513,789 for vocational rehabilitation (HMS 802); \$3,034,623 for homeless services (HMS 224); \$1,023,620 for general support for child care (HMS 302); \$10,652,886 for general support for self-sufficiency (HMS 903); \$1,358,859 for general support for health care payments (HMS 902); and \$2,317,212 for in-community youth programs (HMS 501).

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 244, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 244, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 524 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 613

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Human Services to provide emergency shelter and services to unaccompanied homeless youth.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions; Office of the Public Defender; Office of Youth Services; Pride at Work – Hawai‘i; Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hawai‘i State LGBTQ+ Commission; Democratic Party of Hawai‘i; Residential Youth Services & Empowerment; O‘ahu Youth Action Board; Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai‘i; Hawai‘i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Hawai‘i Youth Services Network; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii is facing a growing crisis of youth homelessness, with one in ten young adults and one in thirty adolescents experiencing homelessness without a parent or guardian each year. Homeless youth are highly vulnerable to serious risks, including lack of basic needs, mental health challenges, substance use, and physical victimization. Despite the urgent need, outreach and shelter services remain limited and addressing these gaps requires expanding access to safe shelter through programs like the Safe Spaces for Youth Pilot Program, which is set to end on June 30, 2025. Your Committee finds that it is important to make the Safe Spaces for Youth Program permanent, thereby ensuring continued access to safe housing, mental health treatment, and supportive services for vulnerable youth across the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language to make the Safe Spaces for Youth Pilot Program a permanent program within the Office of Youth Services;
- (2) Replacing the appropriation to provide emergency shelter and services to unaccompanied homeless youth throughout the State with an appropriation to fund the permanent Safe Spaces for Youth Program within the Office of Youth Services;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider:

- (1) An appropriation amount of \$841,016 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$871,016 for fiscal year 2026-2027; and
- (2) An effective date of June 29, 2025, for all but the appropriation section in this measure, to avoid any unnecessary gaps between the repeal of the Safe Spaces for Youth Pilot Program and the establishment of the program as a permanent program.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 613, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 613, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 2 (Alcos, Garcia). Excused, none.

SCRep. 525 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 480

The purpose of this measure is to streamline the approval process for functional capacity exams to ensure automatic approval of such exams when requested by the attending physician for an injured employee under certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Department of Human Resources Development; Hawaii Insurers Council; and Hawaii Medical Association. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that a functional capacity exam is a set of tests that are used to identify the patient's physical skills, functional capabilities, activity endurance, and work tolerances, typically administered by a trained and licensed provider, such as an occupational therapist or physical therapist. Employers understand well the importance of prompt evaluation as the functional capacity exam informs the clinical care team of possible diagnoses, treatments, and recovery. Additionally, the functional capacity exam provides an objective assessment that assists with future job modifications and the safe gradual transition back to work, decreasing risks for reinjury or long-term disability. This measure provides a reasonable step to decrease unnecessary and harmful delays for patients by eliminating employer permission for functional capacity exams in certain circumstances.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 480, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 526 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 139

The purpose of this measure is to require insurers, mutual benefit societies, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for standard fertility preservation services for policies, contracts, plans, and agreements issued or renewed after December 31, 2025.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Hawaii Society of Clinical Oncology; FORCE: Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered; Fertility Institute of Hawaii; Advanced Reproductive Medicine and Gynecology of Hawaii, Inc.; Hawaii Association of Health Plans; Hawaii Medical Service Association; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Office of the Auditor.

Your Committee finds that some cancer treatments can cause iatrogenic infertility when chemotherapy, radiation, and surgery damage reproductive cells, reproductive organs, or endocrine functioning. These treatments can also adversely impact the ability to carry a pregnancy. Although patients facing iatrogenic infertility have recognized, effective options for preserving fertility, the high cost of these procedures and the narrow window to obtain services means these

procedures are unattainable for many people. This measure assists in the offsetting of those costs by mandating coverage for standard fertility preservation services.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 139, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 139, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 527 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 47

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Division of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture to adopt, amend, and repeal rules to develop an assessment and approval process to import and move aquatic livestock in the State; and
- (2) Require and appropriate funds for the Division of Animal Industry to develop that process through a biological aquatic risk-based framework.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawaii Invasive Species Council; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Kowa Premium Foods Hawaii Corporation – Big Island Abalone; Hawaii Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Kohala Mountain Fish Company; Hawai'i Farmers Union; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the State is home to some of the most unique and biodiverse marine ecosystems in the world. However, these ecosystems are highly sensitive to external influences, including the introduction of non-native aquatic species. Without a robust and comprehensive approval process, there is a significant risk of introducing invasive species, pathogens, or other harmful elements that could disrupt native habitats and harm local fisheries. This measure provides authority for the development of a comprehensive assessment and approval process to protect the environment and resources.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the development of the biological aquatic risk-based framework is to be under the direction and oversight of the State Aquaculture Veterinarian; and
- (2) Specifying that aquatic animal import permits valid on the effective date of the measure and that were vetted in public hearing and approved by the Plant and Animal Committee and the Board of Agriculture shall be carried over to the Division of Animal Industry and remain in force.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 47, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 47, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 528 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 470

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase penalties for violations of leaf blower and weed whacker restrictions;
- (2) Repeal the exemption for government entities from leaf blower restrictions; and
- (3) Beginning July 1, 2028, prohibit the sale of leaf blowers, string trimmers, and weed whackers rated by their manufacturers at greater than sixty-five weighted decibels when measured at a distance of fifty feet.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from seven individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Retail Merchants of Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education and Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that chronic noise pollution causes a wide variety of adverse health effects, including hearing damage, sleep disturbance, stress, anxiety, depression, impaired cognitive function, and increased cardiovascular effects. The operation of loud leaf blowers, string trimmers, and weed whackers creates a nuisance in many of the State's communities and can detract from the quality of life for residents. This measure therefore regulates the future sale of this equipment after a reasonable period of adjustment, which will reduce nuisance and harm to public health and well-being.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the prohibition applies to leaf blowers, string trimmers, and weed whackers that do not meet the ANSI B-175.2 class 1 rating, rather than those rated by the manufacturers at greater than sixty-five weighted decibels;
- (2) Restoring the exemption for government entities from the leaf blower restrictions;
- (3) Beginning July 1, 2028, prohibiting government entities from purchasing leaf blowers, string trimmers, and weed whackers that do not meet the ANSI B-175.2 class 1 rating; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 470, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 470, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Kong). Excused, none.

SCRep. 529 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 72

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require, beginning January 1, 2026, that:
 - (A) Pharmacy technicians be registered with the Board of Pharmacy; and

- (B) Pharmacies only employ registered pharmacy technicians to perform pharmacy technician duties;
- (2) Impose a duty on pharmacists-in-charge to report violations conducted by registered pharmacy technicians; and
- (3) Specify that supervising registered pharmacists are responsible for the actions of registered pharmacy technicians and pharmacy interns.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo; Hawaii Pharmacists Association; Walgreen Co.; KTA Pharmacy; Moloka‘i Drugs, Inc.; and seven individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Board of Pharmacy.

Your Committee finds that pharmacy technicians play an essential role in supporting pharmacists and ensuring the safe and efficient delivery of medications. Under the supervision of a pharmacist in the community setting, pharmacy technicians can fill and dispense medications, process insurance claims, and with additional training, administer vaccinations. In the hospital setting, pharmacy technicians are relied upon to support the compounding of intravenous medications and to stock medication cabinet and other medication delivery systems.

Your Committee further finds that Hawaii is the only state in the nation without an active and managed registry of practicing pharmacy technicians. This lack of oversight presents challenges in ensuring consistent training, competency, and accountability within the pharmacy technician workforce. As such, your Committee finds that the regulation of pharmacy technicians is reasonably necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the consumers of this State.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifically exempting this measure from the requirements for a sunrise analysis by the Office of the Auditor; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 72, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 72, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 530 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 1054

The purpose of this measure is to require, for certain professions, the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and licensing boards to automatically revoke and refuse to renew, restore, or reinstate the professional licenses, registrations, or certifications of registered sex offenders.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Board of Physical Therapy; Board of Dentistry; Board of Massage Therapy; Board of Chiropractic; Hawaii Medical Board; Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology; and Honolulu Police Department. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Board of Psychology; Board of Naturopathic Medicine; Board of Optometry; Board of Barbering and Cosmetology; Board of Nursing; and Board of Acupuncture.

Your Committee finds that under existing law, persons subject to administrative disciplinary actions are afforded a notice and an opportunity for a hearing. However, in instances where the person of interest has been convicted of a sexual offense, the delay in imposing a disciplinary action, including the revocation of a professional license, registration, or certification, places the public at serious risk. This measure promotes consumer protection by requiring the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and certain licensing boards to automatically revoke and refuse to renew, restore, and reinstate the professional licenses, registrations, or certifications of registered sex offenders.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the authority to automatically revoke or deny an application to renew, restore, or reinstate applies to persons who are currently required to register as a sex offender pursuant to the requirements of the sex offender registration laws;
- (2) Clarifying that the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs or the licensing board, as appropriate, shall not restore, renew, or reinstate a license, registration, or certification in the case where:
 - (A) The person has been required to register as a sex offender; and
 - (B) The victim of the covered offense was a patient or client, or a former patient or client, if the relationship was terminated primarily for the purpose of committing the covered offense;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1054, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1054, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kong, Lowen).

SCRep. 531 Health on H.B. No. 715

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Health to issue a certificate of stillbirth upon request of the parent or parents named on a fetal death certificate issued in a case of a stillbirth; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the Department of Health to modify the fetal death reporting system, certificate ordering system, and retaining of personnel necessary to implement this measure.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs; Elizabeth Kahanu Hawaiian Civic Club; Moku o Manokalanipō, The Kaua‘i Council of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health and Planned Parenthood Alliance Advocates - Hawai‘i.

Your Committee finds that the loss of a baby due to stillbirth remains a sad reality for many families and can take a serious toll on a family's health and well-being. A certificate acknowledging a stillbirth can be a meaningful part of the grieving and healing process.

Your Committee has heard the concerns raised in testimony by the Department of Health, that this measure creates a new vital record that may conflict with existing statutes and may create unintended consequences relating to reproductive health and access to abortions. Your Committee appreciates these concerns and believes that an appropriate alternative would be to authorize the Department of Health to issue a commemorative certificate, which has no legal standing and would not conflict with the United States Standard of Certificates of Birth, Death, and Fetal Death.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting its substantive contents requiring the issuance of certificates of stillbirth and appropriating funds, and inserting language that:
 - (A) Authorizes the Department of Health to issue commemorative certificates of stillbirth, subject to certain conditions;
 - (B) Establishes an unspecified amount of fees for commemorative certificates of stillbirth, to be deposited into the Vital Statistics Improvement Special Fund;
 - (C) Specifies that a commemorative certificate of stillbirth shall not be prima facie evidence of facts and has no valid legal standing as a bona fide government record and requires a disclaimer on the back of the commemorative certificate indicating the same; and
 - (D) Amends the purpose of the Vital Statistics Improvement Special Fund to accept fees remitted from issuance of commemorative certificates of stillbirth;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 715, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 715, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 532 Health on H.B. No. 1118

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit new non-medical immunization exemptions for school-aged children, while preserving existing non-medical exemptions granted for the 2024-2025 school year.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities; American Academy of Pediatrics, Hawai'i Chapter; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; American Atheists; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one member of the Kauai County Council; Hawaiian Islands Republican Women; Hawaii For Informed Consent; Yeshua Nation of Amnesty Coalition; Hawaii Federation of Republican Women; Christian Science Committee on Publication for Hawaii; National Vaccine Information Center; Say His Name Foundation; Hawaii Christian Coalition; Ka Ohana O Na Pua; Libertarian Party of Hawaii; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that school entry immunization requirements have been shown to be effective in improving immunization coverage rates, thereby reducing disease incidence. High immunization rates are important at schools to protect medically fragile children, especially children who are unable to be immunized and must rely on their vaccinated peers to prevent the introduction of vaccine preventable diseases in schools.

Your Committee further finds that decreasing immunization coverage due to non-medical exemptions increases the risk for vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks that can be fatal to children. For the 2015–2016 school year in the State, the rate of non-medical immunization exemption was 2.5 percent. The rate of non-medical immunization exemption more than doubled to 5.3 percent for the 2023–2024 school year. The rate of non-medical exemptions varied by school with fifty-five of the three hundred eighty-two schools that reported for school year 2023-2024 having a non-medical immunization exemption rate greater than ten percent.

Your Committee believes that since the health and safety of the State's children are paramount, there is a compelling state interest in protecting the public against deadly diseases, especially considering an increasing trend in non-medical immunity exemptions, while honoring certain non-medical exemptions that previously have been approved. This measure will minimize exemptions from school immunization requirements to improve the health and safety of school-aged children in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that, for purposes of the state law relating to communicable diseases, a person may object in writing on the grounds that immunization conflicts with the person's bona fide religious tenets and practices;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1118, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1118, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Olds). Noes, 2 (Alcos, Garcia). Excused, none.

SCRep. 533 Labor on H.B. No. 989

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Update the requirements for plans filed with the Registrar's Office;
- (2) Require the filing fees to conform with fee schedules adopted in Hawaii Administrative Rules; and
- (3) Authorize the Department of Accounting and General Services to approve the format of plans and drawing scales.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State's filing and approval process for plans to develop land can be inefficient, costly, and wasteful. Your Committee also finds that when a plan is deemed to be unsatisfactory from which copies cannot be made, submission of certified copies and certification letters are required which further delay the filing of plans and creates unnecessary paper waste. Your Committee believes that this measure increases the efficiency of filing plans

by updating the required materials on which plans can be drawn on and streamlining the approval process to the Department of Accounting and General Services.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that filing fees are pursuant to rules adopted by the Department of Accounting and General Services;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 989, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 989, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 534 Labor on H.B. No. 90

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend payroll requirements for public officers and employees by requiring them to be paid pursuant to a predicted payroll schedule, rather than an after-the-fact payroll schedule; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to the Department of Accounting and General Services to establish positions to process and perform tasks related to payroll processing and for costs to convert employees to predicted payroll schedules.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; and United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services.

Your Committee finds that changing payroll requirements for public officers and employees from after-the-fact to a predicted payroll schedule holds the State and counties accountable to pay their employees in a timely manner. Your Committee also finds it is a priority for the State to be a responsible employer and maintain the integrity of the payment process for its employees. Your Committee believes that this measure improves payroll schedules to ensure public officers and employees are paid in a timely manner.

Your Committee has amended this measure accordingly by:

- (1) Extending the implementation dates by one year, to provide adequate time for the Department of Accounting and General Services to implement the conversion to predicted payroll schedules;
- (2) Clarifying that the appropriations for the costs of converting employees to predicted payroll schedules are for fiscal years 2025-2026 and 2026-2027;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$172,000,000 for fiscal years 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 for the Department of Accounting and General Services to implement this change.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 90, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 90, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 535 Labor on H.B. No. 1388

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an additional category of retirants who may be employed without re-enrollment in the Employees' Retirement System and without loss or interruption of benefits for positions that are recognized by the Department of Law Enforcement or Department of the Attorney General as labor shortage or difficult-to-fill positions; and
- (2) Require the Director of Human Resources of the appropriate state jurisdiction to include details on the employment of retirants as investigators in the annual report to the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of Law Enforcement. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Employees' Retirement System.

Your Committee finds that the public sector of the State is experiencing a labor shortage and has instituted various methods to fill vacancies with qualified candidates. Your Committee believes that retirants are valuable and experienced candidates that can be used to fill investigator vacancies in the Department of Law Enforcement and Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee has amended this measure accordingly by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1388, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1388, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 536 Labor on H.B. No. 841

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal statutory language prohibiting retirants from being rehired in teacher shortage areas or hard-to-fill positions within twelve calendar months of leaving employment with the State or a county;
- (2) Prohibit rehired retirants from receiving additional employment benefits; and
- (3) Require the Department of Education to establish procedures to identify teacher shortage areas and hard-to-fill positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Teachers Association. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of the Attorney General. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education and Employees' Retirement System.

Your Committee finds that the State is experiencing a labor shortage and has instituted various methods to fill vacancies with qualified candidates. Your Committee also finds that a successful method is to hire qualified and experienced retirees for certain positions. Your Committee believes that this measure incentivizes retirees to return to the workforce by ensuring their retirement benefits are not disrupted or lost while they occupy certain positions in the Department of Education.

Your Committee has amended this measure accordingly by:

- (1) Changing the waiting period that retirants may be rehired from twelve calendar months of leaving employment with the State or a county to six calendar months; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 841, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 841, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 537 Labor on H.B. No. 214

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an additional category of retirants who may be employed without re-enrollment in the Employees' Retirement System and without loss or interruption of retirement benefits for positions that are recognized by the Department of Education or Department of the Attorney General as a labor shortage or difficult-to-fill position; and
- (2) Require the Director of Human Resources of the appropriate state jurisdiction to include details on the employment of retirants as school resource officers or investigators in their annual report to the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Education; and Department of Law Enforcement.

Your Committee finds that the State is experiencing a labor shortage and has instituted various methods to fill vacancies with qualified candidates. Your Committee also finds that a successful method is to hire qualified and experienced retirees for certain positions. Your Committee believes that this measure incentivizes retirees to return to work by ensuring their retirement benefits are not disrupted or lost while they occupy certain labor shortage or difficult-to-fill positions.

Your Committee has amended this measure accordingly by:

- (1) Changing the host department for school resource officers to the Department of Law Enforcement;
- (2) Changing the break in service period for retirees covered by this measure from twelve months to six months; and
- (3) Changing the defective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 214, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 214, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 538 Labor on H.B. No. 1152

The purpose of this measure is to permanently exempt the following positions from civil service:

- (1) The software developer supervisor in the Department of Taxation; and
- (2) The data privacy officer and tax business analysts in the Office of the Director of Taxation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Taxation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Taxation is working to modernize the State's tax filing system. Your Committee also finds that the Department of Taxation is seeking to join the Internal Revenue Service Direct File Program in 2026 and reduce reliance on third-party vendor services to implement complex system changes. Your Committee further finds that the software developer supervisor position is hard to retain in the State's employment because the private sector provides highly competitive offers for that type of position. Your Committee believes that this measure will support the efforts of the Department of Taxation to modernize the State's tax filing system by exempting these positions from civil service, which will help to attract specialized and experienced candidates.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1152, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1152, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 539 Labor on H.B. No. 477

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal the statutory definitions of "registered for work" or "registration for work";
- (2) Repeal the statutory requirement to post work availability online;
- (3) Amend eligibility qualifications for certain unemployment benefits;
- (4) Beginning April 1, 2027, permit electronic notification of determinations or redeterminations of unemployment claims; and
- (5) Remove language that limits an individual's ability to change a previously elected withholding status only once during a benefit year.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Your Committee finds that the State's unemployment system as it relates to certain requirements is inefficient and limiting for individuals who are already facing difficult circumstances. Your Committee also finds that modernizing the system can greatly improve the communication between the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and unemployed individuals who are using the system for unemployment benefits. Your Committee believes that this measure supports unemployed individuals by expanding the qualifications to receive certain unemployment benefits and improves the system including electronic methods of notification.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Retaining the statutory definitions of "registered for work" or "registration for work";
- (2) Repealing the statutory provision which allows employers to combine accounts to be constituted as a single employer's account as it relates to contribution rates;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 477, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 477, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 540 Labor on H.B. No. 880

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Human Resources Development to reclassify certain positions within the Early Childhood Services unit of the Department of Health Early Intervention Section; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the reclassification of certain positions and establishment of Mental Health Specialist positions within the Early Childhood Services Unit of the Department of Health Early Intervention section.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Early Learning; Department of Health; Hawai'i Early Intervention Coordinating Council; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Commit to Keiki; Association for Infant Mental Health in Hawai'i; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development.

Your Committee finds that the State faces a critical shortage of certain early intervention specialists which negatively impacts the amount of developmental support the State can provide to infants under the age of three who exhibit developmental or learning delays. Your Committee believes that this measure addresses the shortage of early intervention employees that can provide early intervention services by appropriating funds to establish new positions within the Early Childhood Services Unit of the Department of Health.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing language that would require the Department of Human Resources Development to reclassify certain positions; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 880, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 880, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 541 Labor on H.B. No. 874

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require a parent or legal guardian of a minor in theatrical employment to establish a trust account for the minor with an independent third-party trustee;
- (2) Require the employer of a minor in theatrical employment to deposit at least 15 percent of the minor's gross earnings into the trust account until the child becomes an adult; and
- (3) Clarify that theatrical employment, as used in the State's child labor law, includes gainful employment as a social media influencer.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State AFL-CIO; SAG-AFTRA Hawai'i Local; Pride at Work-Hawai'i; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Your Committee finds that a child in theatrical employment deserves financial protection for their earnings. Your Committee also finds that establishing a mandatory trust account for the child's earnings provides financial protection and limits the possibility for wage theft. Your Committee recognizes the intent of including social media influencers under the State's child labor law, however your Committee does not believe that there are sufficient regulations in place to enforce the requirements under this measure, as it relates to social media influencers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing language that would include social media influencers under the definition of "theatrical employment" in the State's Child Labor Law; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 874, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 874, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 542 Labor on H.B. No. 161

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal statutory prohibition on certain employees that are exempt from civil service law from grieving a suspension or discharge; and
- (2) Adds language to allow any employee who is a member of an appropriate bargaining unit to grieve a suspension or discharge.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; Pride at Work-Hawai'i; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that there has been a substantial increase in exempt employees in the State. Your Committee also finds that under existing law, employees exempt from civil service law are classified as "at will" and do not have the right to file a grievance for a suspension or discharge. Your Committee believes that this measure supports the State's commitment to fair labor practices by providing a large portion of the State's workforce the right to grieve a suspension or discharge.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding specific language to include exempt employees not covered by a collective bargaining agreement; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 161, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 161, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 543 Labor on H.B. No. 1172

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Include the Department of Taxation in the list of state agencies sharing data through the statewide longitudinal data system; and
- (2) Authorize the Department of Taxation to share certain wage data with the University of Hawaii and other state agencies.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Taxation; University of Hawai'i System; and Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for Education. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the State's current workforce data is incomplete without the data from the Department of Taxation. Your Committee also finds that educational institutions, such as the University of Hawaii, use workforce data to determine post-graduate outcomes and labor market trends in the State. Your Committee believes that this measure will support educational institutions in conducting more accurate and comprehensive analyses of post-graduate outcomes, which can provide further insight on programs to improve educational and workforce outcomes.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1172, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 544 Labor on H.B. No. 1059

The purpose of this measure convert the Emergency Management Specialist series positions at level V and higher in the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency from civil service status to exempt status.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Defense and Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that incentives commonly used to attract qualified candidates for civil service positions, such as pay differentials, have not succeeded in filling the vacancies within the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency. Your Committee also finds that the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency identified nine crucial positions that need to be filled, of which only one position was filled within the last two years. Your Committee believes that this measure can address the vacancies in the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency by exempting certain positions from civil service status.

Your Committee would like to note, however, its concern in how the conversion to exempt status for these positions will negatively impact the job security of the individual who filled one of those vacant positions and would like to further work with the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to maintain that individual's civil service status.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1059, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 545 Public Safety on H.B. No. 596

The purpose of this measure is to clarify the types of events that constitute disasters and emergencies for the purposes of emergency management.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Grassroot Institute of Hawaii and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency.

Your Committee finds that this measure establishes a clearer statutory definition of the events that constitute an "emergency" or "disaster", which would limit the potential for executive overreach via emergency orders and restore the constitutional balance of powers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 596, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 596, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 546 Public Safety on H.B. No. 673

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit the Governor or a mayor from suspending requests for certain public records or vital records or statistics during a state of emergency;
- (2) Limit the authority of the Governor or a mayor to suspend laws during states of emergency; and
- (3) Allow the Legislature and county councils to terminate, by an affirmative two-thirds vote, a state of emergency, in whole or in part, issued by the Governor or a mayor, respectively.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services and Office of Information Practices.

Your Committee finds that this measure clarifies state and county emergency management authority, supports effective and adaptable emergency responses, and maintains accountability and checks and balances within the framework of the Hawaii State Constitution.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 673, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 673, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 547 Public Safety on H.B. No. 1096

The purpose of this measure is to repeal the statutorily established tenant selection preferences for disabled veterans and spouses of deceased veterans in the State Low-Income Housing Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

Your Committee finds that because tenant selection preferences for the State Low-income Housing Program are currently codified in statute, it can be difficult for the Hawaii Public Housing Authority to adjust policies in response to evolving housing needs. Your Committee further finds that this measure does not eliminate housing assistance for veterans or their spouses but rather modernizes how preferences are managed, ensuring greater flexibility and responsiveness in addressing housing needs statewide.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1096, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ichiyama, Poepoe, Woodson).

SCRep. 548 Transportation on H.B. No. 1154

The purpose of this measure is to, beginning September 30, 2025, require the Director of Transportation to propose to the Governor an adjustment to the amount transferred from the State Highway Fund, Airport Revenue Fund, and Harbor Special Fund by:

- (1) Limiting the deduction to five percent of all receipts and deposits into the funds or \$5,000,000, whichever is less; and
- (2) Creating a process to deduct additional amounts based on the Consumer Price Index.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that a set percentage is deducted from the State Highway Fund, Airport Revenue Fund, and Harbor Special Fund, but there is no way to know in advance how much will be available to pay for central service expenses. This measure provides certainty by setting an amount that will be deducted from each fund while also addressing increases in the cost of government services due to inflation by allowing for additional deductions from each fund based on the Consumer Price Index.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1154, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1154, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 549 Transportation on H.B. No. 1162

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the issuance of a motorcycle instruction permit unless the person successfully completes a basic motorcycle rider course approved by the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that between 2019 and 2023, there were one hundred twenty-three motorcycle fatalities on Hawaii's roadways, with sixty-three of those victims driving without a motorcycle license. This measure ensures the safety motorcycle operators and other users of roads by ensuring motorcycle operators are adequately trained before operating a motorcycle on public roads.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1162, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1162, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 550 Transportation on H.B. No. 1387

The purpose of this measure is to lower the blood alcohol concentration threshold for driving while under the influence of an intoxicant.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Governor; Department of Transportation; Department of Health; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Hawai'i Police Department; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu; Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Hawai'i; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; AAA Hawai'i; Hina Mauka; Mothers Against Drunk Driving; ProArts Playhouse Maui; Lokahi Treatment Centers; Hawai'i Alcohol Policy Alliance; Mala Hanai Pua LLC; Advocates for Highway & Auto Safety; Coalition for a Drug-Free Hawaii; Hawai'i Bicycling League; SparksInitiatives; Pure Jiu-Jitsu; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the National Transportation Safety Board.

Your Committee finds that between 2012 and 2021, there were three hundred fifty-four fatalities involving a driver with a blood alcohol concentration of greater than 0.08 in Hawaii. Your Committee further finds that although existing law makes it an offense to operate a vehicle with a blood alcohol concentration of 0.08 or higher, impairment begins much earlier at a blood alcohol concentration of 0.05. A driver with a blood alcohol concentration of 0.05 can experience lowered alertness, reduced coordination, impaired judgement, and difficulty tracking movements. Your Committee further finds that in 2019, Utah lowered its blood alcohol concentration limit to 0.05 and found a fatal crash rate reduction of 19.8 percent in the first year after the new lower rate was put into place. Your Committee believes that reducing the threshold for blood alcohol concentration will save lives and improve the safety of the State's roadways.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1387, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1387, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 551 Transportation on H.B. No. 387

The purpose of this measure is to amend the offense of negligent injury in the first degree to include bodily injury to another person by operation of a vehicle in a negligent manner while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Hawai'i; and Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Kaua'i. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender.

Your Committee finds that impaired driving continues to pose a significant threat to public safety, often resulting in serious injuries or fatalities. Despite existing laws, cases where bodily injury occurs due to negligent operation while under the influence of an intoxicant require stronger deterrence and accountability. This measure addresses this issue by expanding the offense of negligent injury in the first degree to include bodily injury caused by impaired or negligent driving.

Your Committee notes the concerns and suggestions raised in written testimony from the Office of the Public Defender and respectfully requests your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the suggestions of the Office of the Public Defender.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 387, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 387, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 552 Transportation on H.B. No. 1286

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit pedestrians from walking along the roadway of an interstate highway, auxiliary interstate highway, or certain state highways, except while conducting authorized first responder duties or highway maintenance duties.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Ulupono Initiative.

Your Committee finds that pedestrian safety is a growing concern where high-speed traffic and limited pedestrian infrastructure pose significant risks. Incidents involving pedestrians on highways have led to severe injuries and fatalities, highlighting the need for stricter regulations to protect public safety. This measure will reduce potential accidents and enhance road safety for vehicles and pedestrians on the State's roads.

Your Committee notes the concerns raised in written testimony by Ulupono Initiative that this measure could disproportionately impact communities that rely on vital, sidewalk-less routes found throughout the State. Your Committee will continue to work with pertinent stakeholders to guarantee the safety of the public while also ensuring that these communities are not negatively impacted by this measure.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1286, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1286, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Evslin). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 553 Consumer Protection & Commerce/Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 756

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit the sale, offer for sale, or possession with the intent to sell or offer for sale, of all flavored nicotine products and nicotine product flavor enhancers, including products with menthol;
- (2) Prohibit the mislabeling of e-liquid products as nicotine-free;
- (3) Authorize the Department of Health to appoint, commission, or contract for services of third-party inspectors to enforce the prohibitions; and
- (4) Establish positions and appropriate funds for those positions.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Health; Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hina Mauka; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i Youth Council; Hawaii COPD Coalition; Hawai'i Public Health Association; Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids; Tobacco-Free Kids Action Fund; Hawai'i – American Nurses Association; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i; Hawaii Dental Association; Hawaii Primary Care Association; University of Hawaii Student Health Advisory Council; Hawaii Association of Independent Schools; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i; American Lung Association; and numerous individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Retain Merchants of Hawaii; ABC Stores; Japan Tobacco International U.S.A., Inc.; Americans for Tax Reform; Marukin Market; Hawaii Smokers Alliance; BMA Mart; Cigarettes and Things; Ewa Pantry; Cigar Association of America, Inc.; China Town Liquor; Wawa Market; R&K Grocery and Liquor; Kainehe Liquor; Kilani Market; S&K Wholesale; Nonstop Convenience; Kona Liquor Store; and five individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from Maui Youth and Family Services – Adolescent Treatment Team.

Your Committees find that the vaping crisis in the State has evolved and expanded to all adolescence age groups. Current use of e-cigarettes among high school youth is at 13.2 percent, while middle school e-cigarette use is at 10.3 percent. Furthermore, middle school e-cigarette use rose in several key indicators, including experimentation or ever use (12.8 percent to 16.9 percent), daily use (1.2 percent to 2 percent), and frequent use (1.8 percent to 2.7 percent).

Your Committees further find that an expansive catalog of flavors is one of the main reasons why the use of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices by youth continues to rise. Electronic smoking devices and flavored tobacco products have been glamorized and promoted in a manner to appeal to youth, using flavors like candy, fruit, Maui mango, and shaka strawberry. The majority of youth who use electronic smoking devices report using a flavored product. This measure seeks to address the youth tobacco and vaping crisis by prohibiting the sale and distribution of flavored tobacco products and mislabeling of e-liquid products and provides the Department of Health with the administrative authority needed to enforce this ban.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the disposal of electronic smoking devices and e-liquids as hazardous waste is done in accordance with rules adopted by the Department of Health pursuant to its authority to regulate the disposal of hazardous waste in the State;
- (2) Amending a cross reference to prevent the delegation of final decision-making authority to a contracted inspector; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committees respectfully request your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,000,000, two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) program specialist positions, and one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) hearings officer position.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Consumer Protection & Commerce and Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 756, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it be referred to your Committee on Finance, in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 756, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Consumer Protection & Commerce: Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Ichiyama, Iwamoto, Kong, Lowen).

Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs: Ayes, 6; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 5 (Belatti, Cochran, Hashem, Kahaloa, Perruso).

SCRep. 554 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 467

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit sellers of foreclosed homes in a nonjudicial foreclosure from bundling properties at a public sale for sale to a single buyer and require each foreclosed home to be sold separately; and
- (2) Allow tenants, families, state and county government, affordable housing nonprofits, and community land trusts forty-five days to match or beat the best public sale bid to buy the property.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Lāhainā Strong; Lahaina Community Land Trust; Hawaii Workers Center; Maui Housing Hui; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that the devastating Maui wildfires on August 8, 2023, was one of the worst natural disasters in the State's history. Your Committee further finds that as the foreclosure moratorium comes to an end, there are concerns Maui residents will face a wave of foreclosures that threatens their housing stability. To address these concerns, this measure prohibits the mass purchasing of foreclosed properties and allows certain entities to match or beat a public sale bid.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 467, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 555 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 624

The purpose of this measure is to establish the School Psychologists Working Group within the Department of Education to recommend actionable steps or propose legislation to the Legislature on an immediate pathway to licensure for school psychologists in 2026.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Board of Psychology; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawai'i Association of School Psychologists; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; and nine individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Psychological Association.

Your Committee finds that school psychologists are uniquely qualified professionals who provide a comprehensive range of learning, mental, and behavioral health services in schools. Importantly, school psychologists are not interchangeable with other psychologists, as they possess a specific set of knowledge and skills that are tailored to educational settings. It is for this reason that school psychology is a recognized specialty of psychology by the American Psychological Association (APA); the APA's Model Licensure Act maintains the importance of a distinct license/certification for school psychologists separate and apart from other psychology professionals.

Your Committee further finds that Hawaii is the only state in the United States that has not established credentialing requirements for the practice of school psychology and use of the title "School Psychologist". This measure will allow the Legislature to gather further information to determine the most appropriate form of regulation for persons who practice school psychology.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 624, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 556 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 815

The purpose of this measure is to require health benefits plans established by the Board of Trustees of the Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund to meet or exceed the requirements of the Prepaid Health Care Act.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; and United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that persons should have access to affordable health care options. However, for public employees under the Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund, a significant portion of their compensation goes toward medical premiums – approximately forty percent. In comparison, private-sector employees are covered by the Prepaid Health Care Act, which caps employee contributions at 1.5 percent of the employee's compensation. This measure subjects plans under the Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund to the requirements under the Prepaid Health Care Act.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 815, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 557 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 978

The purpose of this measure is to allow the Public Utilities Commission to appoint a receiver to take temporary action necessary to assure continued service or to bring the service up to appropriate regulatory standards when a regulated investor-owned electric utility is failing, or there is an imminent threat of the utility failing.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Public Utilities Commission and Hawai'i Gas.

Your Committee finds that electric service is critical for daily life for every person in the State. The permanent loss of electricity, such as in the event of a complete company collapse, could endanger everything from public safety infrastructure to personal health equipment.

Your Committee further finds that utility receivership is a critical tool for protecting utility customers in only the most extreme circumstances, such as a complete company collapse. Under a receivership, an appointed person is authorized to take temporary action necessary to assure continued adequate utility services. However, under existing law, the Public Utilities Commission is only authorized to appoint a receiver for a water or sewer utility, not an electric utility. This measure authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to appoint a receiver for electric utilities in the most extreme circumstances.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 978, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 558 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 712

The purpose of this measure is to preserve the integrity of the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program by prohibiting drug manufacturers from denying, restricting, or prohibiting the acquisition, shipping, or delivery of a 340B drug to a pharmacy under contract with any 340B covered entity in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Health Planning and Development Agency; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawaii Primary Care Association; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawai'i Island Community Health Center; The Queen's Health Systems; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center; AlohaCare; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America and Biotechnology Innovation Organization. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Alliance for Safe Biologic Medicines; Biomarker Collaborative; Coalition of Hematology & Oncology Practices; Exon20 Group; H.E.A.L.S. of the South; Hispanic Business Alliance; International Cancer Advocacy Network; Lupus and Allied Diseases Association, Inc.; MET Crusaders; National Infusion Center Association; Neuropathy Action Foundation; and PDL1 Amplified.

Your Committee finds that section 340B of the Public Health Service Act requires pharmaceutical manufacturers participating in Medicaid to sell outpatient drugs at discounted prices to health care organizations that care for many uninsured and low-income patients. These organizations include federal grantee organizations and several types of hospitals, including critical access hospitals, sole community hospitals, rural referral centers, and public and nonprofit disproportionate share hospitals that serve low-income and indigent populations.

Your Committee further finds that the 340B drug pricing program is critical to Hawaii's public health and health care systems. For example, Hawaii's Federally Qualified Health Centers, the largest of which attends to over forty thousand lives, rely on 340B savings for patients and organization to continue providing quality services due to less-than-market reimbursement. This measure preserves the 340B Drug Pricing Program in the State.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 712, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 559 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 450

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Transfer the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and the King Kamehameha Celebration Commission from the Department of Accounting and General Services to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism;
- (2) Transfer the authority held by the Comptroller over the Works of Art Special Fund to the Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and
- (3) Appropriate funds to assist with the transfer.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Accounting and General Services; State Foundation on Culture and the Arts; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the arts and culture sector is a vital component of the State's creative economy and tourism industry and a means of honoring and celebrating the State's history and host culture. Your Committee further finds that by changing the administrative placement of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and King Kamehameha Celebration Commission to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, this measure will allow these agencies to be better supported by a department that is already engaged in support for the arts and culture through its creative industries and economic development endeavors.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding an appropriation for an administrator position within the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2026; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that there should be no reduction in the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts' funding as a result of the transition to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism as this is simply a budget neutral administrative transfer between government bodies.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 450, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 450, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Todd, Matsumoto).

SCRep. 560 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 774

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Food and Product Innovation Network within the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Agriculture; University of Hawai'i; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Ulupono Initiative; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Hawai'i Forest Industry Association; Local Food Coalition; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and Hawaii Fish Company Inc.

Your Committee finds that establishing a network of open-access food and value-added product development facilities would encourage economic development and diversification. This measure addresses this need by establishing the Food and Product Innovation Network to help businesses develop locally made, world-class products and provide access to a diverse suite of manufacturing equipment and industry expertise.

Your Committee has amended this measure by replacing the Department of Education Food and Product Innovation Center in Kekaha, Kauai with future facilities to be developed on lands owned by the Agribusiness Development Corporation in Kekaha, Kauai; a to-be-determined location on Hawaii island; and additional facilities on Maui and Molokai as partner members of the Food and Product Innovation Network.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 774, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 774, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Todd, Matsumoto).

SCRep. 561 Education on H.B. No. 901

The purpose of this measure is to authorize public charter schools to appeal directly to the Board of Education on matters that materially affect the school's operation, governance, or funding.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Wai'alaie Elementary Public Charter School; Hawaii Public Charter Schools Network; Hawaii Academy of Arts & Science Public Charter School; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Board of Education; and State Public Charter School Commission.

Your Committee finds that this measure creates a vital avenue of recourse for charter schools faced with adverse actions or decisions made by charter school authorizers that impact their operations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 901, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 901, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 562 Education on H.B. No. 904

The purpose of this measure is to repeal the requirement for the Board of Education to annually report to the Legislature, Governor, and the public on public charter schools.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Board of Education. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Wai'alaie Elementary Public Charter School; Hawaii Public Charter Schools Network; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State Public Charter School Commission is required to submit a comprehensive annual report to the Legislature that details the items the Board of Education is also required to report on. Your Committee further finds that this measure will eliminate duplicative reporting requirements between the State Public Charter School Commission and Board of Education.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting a preamble;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 904, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 904, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 563 Education on H.B. No. 241

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Human Services to establish a Child Care Classroom Contracts Pilot Program to contract directly with child care center providers in licensed infant and toddler child care centers and group child care centers that meet certain criteria.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services; Early Learning Board; American Association of University Women of Hawaii; Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; and seven individuals. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the Executive Office on Early Learning.

Your Committee finds that the State is facing a severe child care shortage, with licensed and regulated child care settings having the capacity to serve fewer than twenty percent of children from birth to age five. This leaves families across Hawaii with a lack of options for safe and reliable child care. Your Committee believes that this measure will increase access to early learning for Hawaii's children through a pilot program that will contract directly with child care center providers in licensed infant and toddler child care centers and group child care centers to add additional child care services options for families.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 241, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 564 Education on H.B. No. 424

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Education to provide free breakfast and lunch to students enrolled in a Department of Education school who meet certain requirements, beginning with the 2025-2026 school year; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the total plate costs associated with providing the free school breakfasts and lunches.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Youth Services Network; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Hawai'i Food Bank; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the Department of Education and AlohaCare. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i State Teachers Association.

Your Committee finds that students who are hungry or malnourished are likely to face difficulties with concentration and academic performance. Your Committee believes that providing free school meals can help ensure that students have equal opportunities to succeed academically regardless of their socioeconomic status.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the price for school meals shall be set by the Department of Education to ensure that monies received from the sale of the meals shall be no more than one-quarter of the cost of preparing meals; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 424, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 424, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 565 Education on H.B. No. 757

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Education to provide free breakfast and lunch to all students enrolled in a Department school beginning with the 2025-2026 school year.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Mayor of Maui County; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Maui County Department of Agriculture; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; Malama Kaua'i; American Association of University Women of Hawai'i; Green Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Indivisible Hawai'i Working Families Team; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Faith Action for Community Equity; Save Medicaid Hawaii; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Hawai'i Foodbank; Maui Food Bank; Chamber of Sustainable Commerce; AlohaCare; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Hawai'i Hunger Action Network; Light of the Whirl Health Care LLC; HawaiiKidsCAN; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the Department of Education. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that food-insecure students are at higher risk of stress, depression, and chronic illness, all of which undermine their ability to focus, engage in the classroom, and reach their full academic potential. Your Committee further finds that the existing income eligibility threshold for free school meals, which requires a family of four to earn less than \$47,000 annually, is far too low, as around \$110,000 is needed to cover basic living costs in Hawaii.

Your Committee also finds that universal free school meal programs improve educational outcomes. Your Committee notes that eight states have adopted free school meals, with research showing that access to free meals can increase test scores at a rate equivalent to six additional weeks of school. This measure will provide universal free school breakfasts and lunches to students in public schools under the Department of Education to ensure each student's wellness through receiving a meal in school.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 757, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 757, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 566 Education on H.B. No. 1075

The purpose of this measure is to reduce the minimum revenue requirement from the sale of school meals from one-half to one-quarter of the cost of preparing the school meals.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Healthy Eating, Active Living Coalition; and Hawai'i Food Bank. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice.

Your Committee finds that access to nutritious meals is essential for students' academic success and overall well-being. However, the increasing cost of school meals places an undue burden on families, leading to reduced student participation in school meal programs. This measure will reduce the required meal cost offset collection and will make school meals in Department of Education schools more affordable.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the price for school meals shall be set by the Department of Education to ensure that monies received from the sale of the meals shall be no more than one-quarter of the cost of preparing meals;

- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1075, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1075, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 567 Education on H.B. No. 1293

The purpose of this measure is to temporarily:

- (1) Exempt certain Department of Education purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products that are less than an unspecified amount from the electronic procurement system requirement;
- (2) Require at least three written quotes for certain Department of Education purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products; and
- (3) Require no less than two written quotes for certain purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products for certain schools in rural communities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the State Procurement Office.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Education is mandated to provide at least thirty percent locally sourced foods to Hawaii's public schools by 2030. Your Committee further finds that adjusting the Department of Education's small purchase procurement capacity will provide an additional tool to procure fresh products from local farmers and ranchers and assist the Department in fulfilling its mandate to provide locally sourced foods for Hawaii's public schools.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that Department of Education purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products that are less than \$100,000 are exempt from the electronic procurement system requirement;
- (2) Requiring no less than three written quotes for Department of Education purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products of \$15,000 to less than \$25,000;
- (3) Require no less than two written quotes for purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products of \$5,000 to less than \$15,000 for schools in rural communities;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1293, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1293, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 568 Education on H.B. No. 288

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the use of motorcoaches, small buses, and vans for school bus services, provided certain conditions are met;
- (2) Authorize the Department of Education to create a staggered school start time program to mitigate the school bus driver shortage and increase the availability of student transportation for the 2025-2026 school year; and
- (3) Appropriate funds to the Department of Education:
 - (A) For the purchase of motorcoaches, small buses, and vans for school bus drivers; and
 - (B) To incentivize obtaining a commercial driver's license to increase the number of persons eligible to become school bus drivers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education and Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that the State is facing a severe bus driver shortage, resulting in the elimination of nearly eighty bus routes across the State. In response, the Governor issued an emergency proclamation to temporarily relax rules around the types of vehicles that can be used to safely transport students to and from school and around required driver certifications. Your Committee believes that codifying the Governor's emergency proclamation will allow for greater flexibility of school buses services and provide access for all students. Your Committee further finds that establishing a staggered school hours program will help mitigate the school bus driver shortage.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Authorizing the Department of Education to institute a staggered school hours program, rather than a staggered school start time program, in public schools to help make school bus services more available to students;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 288, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 288, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 569 Education on H.B. No. 1500

The purpose of this measure is to repeal the authority of the Department of Education to set the price for school meals.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Health Eating, Active Living Coalition; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education and Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that repealing the Department of Education's authority to set the price for school meals will expand access to nutritious meals, helping students receive the nourishment they need to grow, learn, and thrive.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Restoring the statutory provisions requiring the Department of Education, by rule, to provide a lower rate or free meals to children based on their economic need;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1500, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1500, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 570 Education on H.B. No. 683

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for student transportation coordinators for each county to strengthen student transportation services across the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Ulupono Initiative; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that school bus service provided by the Department of Education is essential for getting students to and from school, particularly for students who lack other transportation options or face hardship in obtaining school transportation services due to economic difficulty. However, chronic bus driver shortages have led to the cancellation or consolidation of many school bus routes, reducing transportation options for families across the State. Your Committee believes that establishing a student transportation coordinator in each county will improve student transportation services and ensure students arrive at school on time to learn.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$400,000 for the establishment of four full-time equivalent permanent student transportation coordinator positions.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 683, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 683, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 571 Higher Education/Education on H.B. No. 707

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a state income tax deduction for contributions made to Hawaii 529 accounts through the College Savings Program; and
- (2) Opt into the amendments of the Internal Revenue Code that authorize 529 benefits to be used for K-12 educational expenses as authorized by federal law.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities and seven individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Department of Budget and Finance; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committees find that the HI529 Hawaii's College Savings Program assists and encourages families in Hawaii to save and invest funds for future higher education expenses. Your Committees further find that the investment income earned under the Program is exempt from federal and state taxes; provided that the funds are used for qualified higher education expenses.

Your Committees note that the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 expanded 529 plan benefits to include K-12 educational expenses. This measure will conform state law to these specific changes made to the Internal Revenue Code and strengthen Hawaii's 529 college savings program.

Your Committees note that establishing a state income tax deduction for accounts under the Hawaii Achieving A Better Life Experience Savings Program, which provides for individual savings accounts for individuals with a disability and their families to save private funds to support the individuals, will also promote greater financial security and educational opportunities within the disability community.

Your Committees have accordingly amended this measure by:

- (1) Including accounts through the Hawaii Achieving A Better Life Experience Savings Program under the state income tax deduction established by this measure;

- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Higher Education and Education that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 707, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 707, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Higher Education: Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kila).

Education: Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kila).

SCRep. 572 Health on H.B. No. 905

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to:

- (1) Purchase an advanced life support ambulance and related equipment to be based in the Central Maui area of the County of Maui; and
- (2) Increase the predictability and stability of available air ambulance services for all islands in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; one member of the Maui County Council; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that in the County of Maui there are a total of nine ambulances to serve the entire county, with one unit each in East Maui, Kahului, and Wailuku and two units each in South Maui, West Maui, and Upcountry Maui. Your Committee further finds that as the result of significant population growth, the Central Maui region would benefit from the addition of an advanced life support ambulance, which will help reduce death and disability among residents and visitors by providing timely responses to 911 calls.

Your Committee notes the Department of Health's recommendation in their written testimony before your Committee suggesting consideration of alternative service models such as mobile integrated health or community paramedicine programs, which are designed to address emergency and non-emergency needs at a potentially lower cost that could ensure the long-term sustainability and efficiency of emergency medical services, particularly in underserved areas.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,750,000 for the increase of available air ambulance services.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 905, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 905, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Marten, Takenouchi, Alcos, Garcia).

SCRep. 573 Health on H.B. No. 245

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Education, in collaboration with the Department of Health and State Public Charter School Commission, to:

- (1) Conduct a study on the current practices of managing heat exposure in state public and charter schools to protect students' health during outdoor activities; and
- (2) Develop a plan if the current practices are insufficient in managing heat exposure.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hawai'i Public Health Association; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i Climate Change and Health Working Group; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that rising air temperatures and Hawaii's high average relative humidity pose a significant challenge to human thermoregulation, particularly for individuals exercising outdoors where high humidity reduces the efficacy of the body's ability to cool itself through sweating. Your Committee further finds that the dangers of exertional heat illness are particularly high for children, who have reduced thermoregulation capabilities and slower heat acclimatization compared to adults. Your Committee believes that creating data-driven state guidelines for managing heat during outdoor activities is a vital step in protecting Hawaii's children from the dangers of heat exposure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 245, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 574 Health on H.B. No. 903

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize schools to maintain a stock supply of bronchodilators to be administered under certain conditions;
- (2) Authorize certain employees of a school and Department of Education personnel to administer certain medication in emergency situations, under certain conditions; and
- (3) Amend prescription drug labeling requirements to include certain information related to a school, if applicable.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Education; Hawai'i State Center for Nursing; Hawai'i Association of Professional Nurses; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawai'i Public Health Association; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i-American Nurses Association; AlohaCare; American Lung Association; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Hawaii Association for Justice.

Your Committee finds that asthma is one of the most common conditions affecting children in Hawaii. Your Committee further finds that the timely access to bronchodilators can be life-saving during an asthma episode. Your Committee believes that ensuring rapid access to life-saving medications, such as bronchodilators, will strengthen school health services and protect the health of Hawaii's children.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 903, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 575 Health on H.B. No. 1233

The purpose of this measure is to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the State by requiring the counties to:

- (1) Regulate the permitting, construction, and maintenance of retention and detention ponds, including establishing safety standards for retention and detention ponds; and
- (2) Conduct a survey of existing retention and detention ponds statewide and provide a report to the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition; Hawaiian Lifeguard Association; and eight individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Facility Maintenance of the City and County of Honolulu and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that drowning is the number one cause of death for children between the ages of one and fifteen in the State. Your Committee further finds that retention and detention ponds, while essential for stormwater management, pose serious risks to public health and safety due to their potential for sudden water level changes and deep standing water. Improperly maintained and unregulated retention and detention ponds are particularly dangerous for young children, who are unaware of the risks they pose. Your Committee believes that regulating the construction and permitting of retention and detention ponds, including the establishment of minimum safety standards, is necessary to ensure the health and safety of residents and visitors.

Your Committee notes the testimony from the Department of the Attorney General, which states that this measure requires the counties to administer a new regulatory program for retention and detention ponds, but does not contain an appropriation to the counties for this purpose. Such cost sharing is a requirement under Article VIII, section 5 of the Hawaii State Constitution.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation as a grant-in-aid to the counties for an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1233, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1233, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Alcos, Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 576 Health on H.B. No. 799

The purpose of this measure is to support the provision of care by clarifying certain provisions relating to physician practices at organized ambulatory health care facilities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Association of Professional Nurses; Community First Hawaii; Hawaii Medical Service Association; Aloha Surgical Center; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Healthcare Association of Hawaii and Hawaii Association of Health Plans.

Your Committee finds that the State continues to experience a significant health care worker shortage, particularly on the neighbor islands. Your Committee further finds that some Oahu-based physicians schedule rotations on the neighbor islands to coordinate care, address gaps in needed services, and reduce the need for neighbor island residents to travel to receive care. This care is often provided in out-patient settings at organized ambulatory health care facilities, which allow providers from other areas to provide health care services to medically underserved residents. Your Committee believes that clarifying the requirements for physicians providing services at these facilities, particularly with respect to hospital privileges and patient transfers, will ensure patients on the neighbor islands receive timely access to health care.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 799, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 799, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 577 Health on H.B. No. 952

The purpose of this measure is to establish a Parkinson's Disease Research Collection Database within the Department of Health.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition; Speech, Swallowing, & Voice Specialists of Hawaii; Hawai'i Parkinson Association; The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research; Hawai'i Speech-Language-Hearing Association; Parkinson's Foundation; The Queen's Health Systems; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that Parkinson's disease is a neurodegenerative disease that affects approximately one million people in the United States. There is no cure or treatment to stop or reverse the progression of the disease. Your Committee further finds that collecting critical research data is the first step to better understanding Parkinson's disease, particularly with respect to estimating the incidence and prevalence of Parkinson's disease across various population

groups. Your Committee believes that establishing a data collection database on the incidences of Parkinson's disease in the State will greatly assist public health agencies in identifying trends across various population groups and help improve provider education, improve understanding of the disease, and assess treatment effectiveness over time.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 952, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 952, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 578 Education on H.B. No. 861

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Designate student transportation as critical infrastructure and a critical service for Hawaii's public education system;
- (2) Require school bus contracts to include minimum standards, performance metrics, and accountability requirements to ensure the reliability and efficiency of student transportation services; and
- (3) Require school bus contracts to include proactive planning and oversight mechanisms to prevent service disruptions and enhance contractor accountability.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that reliable student transportation is a critical component of ensuring equitable access to education for all students in the State. Your Committee notes that in recent years, disruptions in school bus services have severely impacted families and communities, leaving students stranded and unable to attend school consistently.

Your Committee further finds that while the Department of Education includes performance metrics, penalties, and some contingency planning in its contracts with student transportation providers, these provisions are largely reactive and fail to address systemic issues. Your Committee believes that proactive measures, including robust contingency planning, stricter accountability mechanisms, and clear performance standards are necessary to prevent future cancellations, ensure consistent service, and restore public trust in the State's school transportation system.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 861, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 861, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 579 Education on H.B. No. 862

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the use of motorcoaches, small buses, and vans for school bus services if certain conditions are met.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Soderholm Bus and Mobility. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that the availability of school bus services is essential to student attendance, particularly for families who live in rural and remote areas, as well as students who come from socioeconomically disadvantaged communities. Currently, there is a nationwide shortage of school bus drivers. This shortage is forcing the suspension or partial suspension of school bus services across the State.

Your Committee further finds that, to address the shortage of school bus drivers in Hawaii, the Governor issued an emergency proclamation in August 2024 to allow the Department of Transportation to grant exemptions for the use of vehicles other than school buses to transport students. Specifically, this and subsequent related emergency proclamations allow for the transport of students using vehicles other than school vehicles by drivers possessing a commercial driver's license with an endorsement authorizing the driving of vehicles carrying passengers. Your Committee believes that making this exemption permanent will help alleviate the lack of school bus drivers in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 862, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 862, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 580 Education on H.B. No. 619

The purpose of this measure is to require the Board of Education to adopt and enact a policy by the 2026-2027 school year directing Department of Education schools to incorporate financial literacy education in the school's curriculum.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Housing Hawai'i's Future; Visa, Inc.; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; HawaiiKidsCAN; and eight individuals. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the Department of Education. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Board of Education.

Your Committee finds that financial education is a lifelong learning process that empowers individuals to plan for their futures; however, not all students are receiving the financial education needed to succeed later in their lives. Your Committee further finds that a lack of financial literacy can hinder an individual's ability to achieve financial prosperity and stability. This measure ensures the teaching of financial literacy in Department of Education schools, thereby helping prepare students for financial independence through the development of fiscal responsibility and financial management skills.

Your Committee recognizes the efforts to pass measures regarding the incorporation of financial literacy in Department of Education schools, which dates back to 2003, with a resolution requesting the establishment of a Public Financial Education and Asset-Building Task Force, being adopted in 2008.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the preamble to declare that the incorporation of financial literacy education in the curriculum of Department of Education schools is of statewide importance and impact; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 619, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 619, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 581 Education on H.B. No. 1343

The purpose of this measure is to require the Board of Education to adopt a policy that bans the use of phones and related devices by students during school hours.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Teachers Association and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the Board of Education. 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 cellphone use in schools can be detrimental to student achievement and wellbeing. Research has shown that allowing cellphones in the classroom affects student focus and engagement, leading to decreased academic performance on tests and adversely impacting students' long-term learning retention.

Your Committee further finds that there is a growing number of states that are banning or restricting cellphone use in schools, with at least nineteen states having passed laws or enacted policies that ban or restrict students' use of cellphones in schools statewide or recommending that local districts enact bans or restrictive policies. Your Committee believes that banning the use of cellphones and related devices, including smart watches, earbuds, AirPods, Bluetooth connected headphones, and smart glasses, by students in schools will increase student productivity and improve academic achievement.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the preamble to:
 - (A) Declare that the banning of cell phones and related devices by students during school hours is a matter of statewide concern; and
 - (B) Include smart glasses in the list of devices that would be considered to be banned under a Board of Education policy;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1343, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1343, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 582 Housing on H.B. No. 421

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal the leasing restriction on owner-builders who obtain an owner-builder exemption to act as their own contractor and who build or improve residential or farm buildings or structures on property they own or lease and do not offer the buildings or structures for sale; and
- (2) Require an owner or a lessee to provide signed written notice that the residential structure for lease or sublease was built or improved by an individual who is not a licensed contractor.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS and Grassroot Institute of Hawaii. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Contractors License Board and Contractors Association of Kaua'i. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Regulated Industries Complaints Office.

Your Committee finds that under existing law, an owner-builder who has an owner-builder permit to act as their own general contractor cannot sell or lease, or offer to sell or lease, a structure that was built under an owner-builder exemption until one year after completion. Your Committee further finds that Hawaii is one of only seven states in the country that imposes this type of restriction. The existing restriction on leasing means that property owners who could offer units in Hawaii's rental market are unable to do so during this one-year period. This measure will complement many of the strategies now being used to ease the State's housing shortage by eliminating this lease restriction.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 421, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 421, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 583 Housing on H.B. No. 525

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify that dwelling units under the Rent-to-Own Program shall be units that are for sale in fee simple or leasehold on state or county land under a lease with an initial term of no less than ninety-nine years; and
- (2) Increase the time the sales price under the Rent-to-Own Program must remain fixed from five years to ten years.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that developing innovative homeownership pathways for residents is crucial in addressing the State's ongoing housing shortage. Your Committee further finds the Rent-to-Own Program managed by the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation offers an alternative route to homeownership for lower-income households. Under this program, a portion of the rent paid goes toward the eventual purchase of a home, thereby allowing renters to build equity over time. This measure enables more individuals and families to transition into homeownership by expanding the types of eligible units under the Rent-to-Own Program.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 525, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 525, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 584 Housing on H.B. No. 576

The purpose of this measure is to exempt transfers of Hawaiian Home Lands from the real property transfer restrictions under housing development programs of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Your Committee finds that under existing law, projects under the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands using a program under the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation are subject to transfer restrictions, such as buyback and shared appreciation restrictions. However, your Committee further finds that these restrictions may conflict with the objectives and requirements of Department of Hawaiian Home Lands programs, as housing on Hawaiian Home Lands is governed by the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920. This measure therefore clarifies that transfers of Hawaiian Home Lands are exempt from Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation requirements.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 576, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 576, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 585 Housing on H.B. No. 416

The purpose of this measure is to exempt state-financed housing developments from the requirement to obtain approval from the applicable county council.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Housing Hawai'i's Future; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; and Maui Chamber of Commerce. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu; Lāhainā Strong; LIMBY Hawai'i; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation and Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's housing regulations are the strictest in the country and the need for streamlining the process to develop affordable housing is at an all-time high. Your Committee further finds that only twenty percent of residents can afford the median home sale price, while over fifty percent of renters are cost-burdened, spending more than thirty percent of their income on housing. State-financed projects undergo rigorous review by the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation and requiring county council approval may create redundancy that results in delays. This measure will remove administrative barriers while preserving essential oversight and ensuring that critical health, safety, and affordability standards are upheld.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that projects that received a financing commitment from the State within the urban land use district are exempt for approval by a county legislative body;
- (2) Authorizing a county planning director to reject a permit application within thirty days of receiving the preliminary plans and specifications for reasons related to a lack of infrastructure for a project within a urban land use district that received a financing commitment from the State;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and

- (4) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 416, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 416, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 1 (Grandinetti). Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kila).

SCRep. 586 Housing on H.B. No. 243

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Public Utilities Commission to establish a streamlined grid-ready home interconnection process; and
- (2) Require the Hawaii Electricity Reliability Administrator to submit a report to the Legislature on the streamlined grid-ready home interconnection process.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Tesla; Green Party of Hawai'i; Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; Sunrun Inc.; 350Hawaii.org; Hawaii Solar Energy Association; Climate Protectors Hawaii; Credence Projects LLC; Photonworks Engineering; Alternate Energy Hawaii; Alternate Energy Hawaii Inc.; Inter-Island Solar Supply; LIMBY Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaiian Electric; Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative; and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Public Utilities Commission.

Your Committee finds that grid-ready homes represent a low-cost, high-impact solution to expedite the deployment of advanced distributed energy resources, such as paired solar and energy storage, electric vehicle charging, and vehicle-to-grid technologies. By reducing interconnection bottlenecks and costly infrastructure upgrades, this measure enables customers to install grid-interactive clean energy technologies rapidly and affordably.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the streamlined grid-ready home interconnection process for grid-tied renewable energy and storage systems is for investor-owned electric utility companies;
- (2) Expanding the scope of the grid-ready home interconnection process to include electric vehicle charging;
- (3) Removing the cost-sharing fee requirement under the streamlined grid-ready home interconnection process;
- (4) Clarifying that the service upgrades are to be paid by the distributed energy resources asset owner;
- (5) Requiring that a rule or order for the streamlined grid-ready home interconnection process for grid-tied renewable energy generation and storage systems establishes a process to approve or certify licensed electricians; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 243, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 243, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 2 (Muraoka, Pierick). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 587 Housing on H.B. No. 350

The purpose of this measure is to expand the types of water heater systems required for the issuance of a building permit for new single-family dwellings to include ENERGY STAR certified heat pump water heaters.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Energy Office; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; and Hawai'i Energy. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Inter-Island Solar Supply and Hawaii Solar Energy Association.

Your Committee finds that the rising cost of living has made it increasingly difficult for homeowners to manage utility expenses, particularly in new residential construction. Many new homes continue to be built without energy-efficient water heating systems, which increases the overall cost of homeownership and contributes to the State's energy consumption. ENERGY STAR certified heat pump water heaters are highly energy efficient and have the potential to provide grid support and cost savings, with even greater benefits in the future. This measure will help lessen the financial burden associated with homeownership by reducing the cost of utilities by requiring more energy efficient systems to be installed in new construction.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 350, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 588 Housing on H.B. No. 346

The purpose of this measure is to expand the existing Electric Vehicle Charging System Rebate Program to provide rebates for the installation of eligible electric vehicle-ready parking stalls in new construction of affordable housing.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Hawai'i State Energy Office; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation Commission; Public Utilities Commission; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Office of Economic Development of the County of Kaua'i; Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency of the City and County of Honolulu; Ulupono Initiative; Hawaiian Electric; Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association; Hawai'i Energy; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; Coalition Earth; 350Hawaii.org; Citizens' Climate Lobby Hawai'i; Alliance for Automotive Innovation; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Disability and Communication Access Board.

Your Committee finds that the inclusion of electric vehicle-ready parking stalls in a new affordable housing project is a forward-thinking initiative that aligns with the State's clean energy goals and ensures equitable access to emerging technologies. Designing electric vehicle-ready parking stalls in affordable

housing developments is a practical, cost-effective, and equitable strategy to support clean energy. This measure will ensure that affordable housing developments are prepared for the future while enabling residents to actively participate in the clean energy transition.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 346, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 2 (Muraoka, Pierick). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 589 Water & Land/Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 85

The purpose of this measure is to remove the annual \$5,100,000 cap on the amount of conveyance tax revenues to be paid into the Land Conservation Fund.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Makahanaloa Fishing Association; Hawai'i Land Trust; Hawai'i Farmers Union; and numerous individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committees find that the Land Conservation Fund was established by Act 156, Session Laws of Hawaii 2005, to create permanent, adequate funding for land conservation. Your Committees further find that the Land Conservation Fund serves a key function in protecting and preserving Hawaii's natural resources by providing funding for the acquisition of lands that are critical to watershed protection, agricultural production, habitation conservation, and cultural preservation. However, your Committees find that there is value in establishing a set maximum cap on the amount of conveyance tax revenue to be transferred into the Land Conservation Fund each fiscal year.

Accordingly, your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the conveyance tax revenues to be transferred into the Land Conservation Fund to an unspecified percentage;
- (2) Restoring the existing statutory maximum monetary cap on the amount of conveyance tax revenues to be transferred into the Land Conservation Fund and changing that amount to an unspecified amount;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion;
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Water & Land and Energy & Environmental Protection that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 85, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 85, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Water & Land: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

Energy & Environmental Protection: Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 590 Water & Land on H.B. No. 734

The purpose of this measure is to require and appropriate funds for the Department of Health, in consultation with various agencies and professionals, to review rules and practices and propose changes that have the potential to make wastewater systems and cesspool upgrades more affordable without compromising water quality.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i and Palmyra; WAI: Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that cesspools in the State pose a significant threat to both the environment and public health. This measure aims to explore ways to make cesspool upgrades or conversions more affordable, all while tackling cesspool-related pollution and ensuring water quality is not compromised.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 734, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 591 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1495

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish and appropriate funds for the Keauhou Aquifer System Monitoring Pilot Project within the Department of Land and Natural Resources; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the installation of two monitoring wells in the Keauhou Aquifer System.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority; Department of Water Supply of the County of Hawai'i; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Keauhou Aquifer System is a critical water source that supports local communities, ecosystems, and cultural traditions. However, the system faces significant challenges from rising water demand and potential overuse. Recognizing the importance of safeguarding these vital water resources, your Committee believes this measure will address these concerns by establishing a Keauhou Aquifer System Monitoring Pilot Project and allocating funds for the installation of two monitoring wells.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the estimated cost of at least \$3,000,000 per monitoring well.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1495, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 592 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1008

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to determine the effect of any proposed state affordable housing project on historic property, aviation artifacts, or burial sites within ninety days of a request for determination; and
- (2) Base the historic review requirements on the project area's known or likely density of historic, cultural, and archaeological resources or previous identification of no significant historic properties through an archaeological inventory survey.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Maui Chamber of Commerce; NAIOP Hawaii; and Hawai'i Association of REALTORS. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Your Committee finds that delays and backlogs in historic preservation reviews hinder the timely development of affordable housing and contribute to rising costs. This measure accelerates the construction of affordable housing units and reduces expenses by establishing a separate historic review process specifically for certain proposed state affordable housing projects.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the requirement for an archaeological inventory survey to have been previously reviewed and accepted by the Department of Land and Natural Resources for a proposed project to proceed under an archaeological monitoring program in a moderately sensitive area; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1008, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1008, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 593 Water & Land on H.B. No. 969

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the construction, modification, or expansion of any waste or disposal facility on land that is near or above a significant aquifer, as determined by the Department of Health.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Honolulu Board of Water Supply; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; North Shore Chamber of Commerce; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition; Chamber of Sustainable Commerce; Free Access Coalition; Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs; Kupuna for the Moopuna; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Environmental Services of the City and County of Honolulu; Hawai'i Environmental Change Agents-Solid Waste Reduction Task Force; Energy Justice Network; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that although waste and disposal facilities are necessary, their location should be carefully considered to prevent harm to the public health and environment as there is a serious risk of harmful leachate seeping into the ground on which the facilities sit. This is particularly dangerous if the waste or disposal facility is situated atop a freshwater aquifer, as leachate infiltration can introduce harmful pollutants into drinking water and agricultural irrigation systems. Your Committee believes that prohibiting the construction, modification, or expansion of waste and disposal facilities on land that is above a significant aquifer, as proposed by this measure, will enable the State to fulfill its role as the primary guardian of public trust resources, including fresh water.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 969, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 594 Water & Land on H.B. No. 800

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Provide for the transfer of certain parcels in the Liliha Civic Center area and Iwilei Fire Station area from various state agencies to the City and County of Honolulu;
- (2) Provide for the transfer of the parcel of land on which Alii Place is sited from the City and County of Honolulu to the State;
- (3) Repeal the sunset provision of Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, which allows the counties to share in the burden of facilitating the development, construction, financing, refinancing, or other provision of mixed-use developments, including low- and moderate-income housing projects, and issue county bonds for this purpose;
- (4) Require the City and County of Honolulu to accept the properties transferred in satisfaction of all amounts owed by Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation under the Kapolei roadways, drainage, and sewer settlement; and
- (5) Exempt the lands transferred to the Department of Land and Natural Resources from the definition of public lands for purposes of chapter 171, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Accounting and General Services; and Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Association of Unit Owners of Senior Residence at Iwilei.

Your Committee finds that this measure will help address the State's pressing need for office space by creating an opportunity for state agencies to secure long-term office spaces, reducing government reliance on private commercial office space.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 800, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 800, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Souza). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 595 Water & Land on H.B. No. 511

The purpose of this measure is to provide that a survey of the land that is to be set aside shall not be a condition precedent to the setting aside of public lands to any department or agency of the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; Boteilho Hawaii Enterprises Inc.; SC Ranch Co. Inc.; TiLeaf Group; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that requiring land surveys before setting aside public lands between state departments causes unnecessary delays and administrative burdens, hinders efficient land use, and increases costs. This measure eliminates the survey requirement as a condition precedent, streamlining the process to expedite land transfers, such as pending transfers pursuant to Act 90, Session Laws of Hawaii 2003, and helps conserve government resources.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 511, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 511, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 596 Water & Land on H.B. No. 798

The purpose of this measure is to clarify the exemptions to the prohibition on discharging any wastewater or raw sewage into state waters after December 31, 2026, by:

- (1) Removing the exemption for treatment plants that produce clean energy; and
- (2) Exempting treatment plants with a treatment capacity under a certain amount.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; and Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui.

Your Committee finds that this measure will allow the County of Maui to move forward with its plans for the Waikapu Wastewater Treatment Plan and allow for the development of affordable housing.

Your Committee has amended this measure by clarifying that the prohibition against discharging wastewater or raw sewage applies strictly to treatment plants, not any person, including a public body.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 798, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 798, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Souza). Noes, 2 (Iwamoto, Shimizu). Excused, none.

SCRep. 597 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 166

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Declare that the State has a duty to defend professionally licensed or certified state employees from civil actions when the employee's actions were within the scope of employment and were not grossly negligent or wanton, as long as the employee is cooperating with the State's defense;
- (2) Clarify that professionally licensed or certified state employees may employ their own attorneys at their own expense;
- (3) Require the Attorney General to work with the professionally licensed or certified state employee to amicably transfer representation to the successor counsel chosen by the employee if the State declines to defend the employee from a civil action on certain grounds; and
- (4) Require the Attorney General to file a confidential motion to withdraw as counsel if the Attorney General and professionally licensed or certified state employee cannot amicably transfer representation to the successor counsel.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Association for Justice; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that this measure would further strengthen the legal protections for governmental employees when exercising their professional judgment, which will enable the State to attract and retain qualified employees who may otherwise fear that they would be held personally and financially liable.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 166, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 166, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 598 Water & Land on H.B. No. 879

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the maximum grant amount for the Cesspool Compliance Pilot Grant Project; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the Cesspool Compliance Pilot Grant Project.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Department of Health; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; WAI: Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that all cesspools in the State must be upgraded or converted to a wastewater system by 2050. Your Committee further finds that while grants to assist low- and moderate-income property owners in their cesspool upgrades or conversions were authorized by Act 153, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, these grants may not be sufficient to cover the full cost of an upgrade or conversion. Your Committee believes that authorizing additional funds and increasing the maximum amount of the grant allowed will enable the State to reach its policy goals and better protect the State's waters.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider making the program a loan program, rather than a grant program, and to consider establishing need-based qualifications for applicants.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 879, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 599 Water & Land on H.B. No. 379

The purpose of this measure is to require newly installed or modified individual wastewater systems that are near the shoreline, or likely to pollute groundwater, to include denitrification capacity.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; two members of the Hawai'i County Council; Center for Global Discovery and Conservation Science; Puako for Reefs; Kauhakō 'Ohana Association; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Hawai'i Ocean Legislative Task Force; WAI: Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations; The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i and Palmyra; Water Quality Consulting, Inc.; Hawai'i State Association of Counties; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health and Hawai'i Association of REALTORS.

Your Committee finds that clean nearshore waters are vital to public health and the health of nearshore reefs and associate fisheries. Your Committee further finds that when excess nutrients such as nitrogen enter nearshore waters from wastewater systems, they can stimulate the growth of algae, which can smother coral. Requiring newly installed or modified individual wastewater systems to include denitrification capacity, as proposed by this measure, will likely reduce the amount of pollutants entering Hawai'i's nearshore waters, ensuring future generations can reap the benefits of healthy and resilient coral reef ecosystems.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the requirement that individual wastewater systems located at or below one thousand five hundred feet above sea level and subject to certain soil and substrate conditions have denitrification capacity; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 379, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 379, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 600 Water & Land on H.B. No. 738

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Create a process for expediting the review of majority residential mixed-use transit-oriented development or residential transit-oriented development on certain parcels within county-designated transit-oriented development zones that have a low risk of affecting historically significant resources;
- (2) Further empower lead agencies, including county agencies, to make determinations on the potential effects of a project;
- (3) Create a ninety-day or thirty-day limit, as applicable, for the Department of Land and Natural Resources to concur or not concur with project effect determinations; and
- (4) Ensure that projects with written concurrence are exempt from further review unless there is a significant change to the project.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Holomua Collaborative; Hawai'i YIMBY; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; NAIOP Hawaii; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawai'i Community Development Authority; and Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that the historic preservation review process is necessary to preserve Hawaii's cultural resources, including historic properties and burial sites. Your Committee further finds that expediting the historic review process for transit-oriented development projects located in areas that have previously been surveyed and found to pose a low risk to historically significant resources will allow the State to address the ongoing housing crisis while still ensuring vital elements of the State's heritage are protected and preserved.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Establishing a notice and reporting requirement if a change in the project's physical scope or project area or if additional historic properties or aviation artifacts are discovered in the project area after the initial written concurrence is issued;
- (2) Providing for the treatment of burial sites inadvertently discovered after the initial written concurrence is issued; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 738, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 738, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 601 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1138

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Board of Land and Natural Resources to adopt rules, including interim rules, regarding commercial and recreational use of water sports equipment.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Maui Wingfoiling and Windsurfing Facebook Page; Boss Frog's Dive and Surf; Ocean Tourism Coalition; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that new water sports equipment is often developed using new and emerging ocean recreation technologies, but the Department of Land and Natural Resources does not have the ability to quickly regulate these new types of equipment if they pose a threat to the health and safety of the public or the State's natural resources. Your Committee further finds that under existing law, agencies may issue emergency rules to address matters that present an imminent peril to the public health and safety or to natural resources without prior notice or hearing. However, these emergency rules may only be in effect for one hundred twenty days without renewal. Your Committee believes that extending the period for which an emergency rule may be in effect specifically for the regulation of commercial and recreational water sports equipment will grant the Department of Land and Natural Resources the flexibility necessary to address any threats to the public safety or natural resources posed by new and emergent ocean recreation technologies.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language granting the Board of Land and Natural Resources the authority to issue interim rules for a twenty-four month period;
- (2) Inserting language authorizing the Board of Land and Natural Resources to issue emergency rules to be in effect for a three hundred sixty-five day period without renewal for the regulation of commercial and recreational water sports equipment;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1138, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1138, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto, Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 602 Water & Land on H.B. No. 830

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Land and Natural Resources, through the State Historic Preservation Division and subject to approval from the appropriate island burial council, to contract its review of proposed state projects, projects on privately owned historic property, and projects involving entitlements for use that may affect historic properties to third-party consultants if the Department will not be able to complete its review within sixty days.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; NAIOP Hawaii; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Historic Hawai'i Foundation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee finds that the process for preserving historical sites needs to improve in efficiency of review and decision-making. However, your Committee also recognizes that relying on third-party consultants could be challenging for the Department of Land and Natural Resources, especially if the State Historic Preservation Division is responsible for covering the costs related to contracting these external experts.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 830, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Shimizu). Noes, 1 (Iwamoto). Excused, none.

SCRep. 603 Energy & Environmental Protection/Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 1365

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Agriculture for the preparation of an environmental impact statement to drill non-potable water wells on individual parcels at Panaewa Agricultural Park and Panaewa farm lots.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association; and three individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committees find that access to affordable and reliable irrigation water is essential for agricultural viability. This measure provides resources for preparation of an environmental impact statement to drill non-potable water wells on individual parcels at Panaewa Agricultural Park and Panaewa farm lots, enhancing irrigation water access in the region.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the appropriation is for a Non-Potable Water Wells Pilot Program; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and Agriculture & Food Systems that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1365, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1365, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Energy & Environmental Protection: Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).
 Agriculture & Food Systems: Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 604 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 751

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish statewide goals for solid waste reduction and organic waste diversion; and
- (2) Require each county to incorporate into its next integrated solid waste management plan revision a plan to divert certain organic waste generated within the county in alignment with established state benchmarks.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui and Department of Environmental Management of the County of Hawai'i. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that the Aloha+ Challenge established the goal to reduce by seventy percent the solid waste stream prior to disposal by 2030 through source reduction, recycling, bioconversion, and landfill diversion methods for organic waste. In order to help the State meet this goal, this measure establishes statewide benchmarks for solid waste reduction and organic waste diversion and requires the counties to incorporate these benchmarks into their integrated solid waste management plans.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that organic waste generators are required to divert material to any Department of Health approved facility;
- (2) Changing the deadline for Tier 1 organic waste generators to January 1, 2027;
- (3) Changing the deadline by which all organic wastes are banned from landfills and co-generation plants to January 1, 2040;
- (4) Adding a definition for "compostable";
- (5) Including compostable food packing and removing food-soiled paper from the definition of "organic waste";
- (6) Changing the deadlines for the goals to reduce the solid waste stream prior to disposal by forty and seventy percent to January 1, 2027, and January 1, 2035, respectively;
- (7) Removing organic waste landfill diversion from the methods specified for the reduction of the solid waste stream prior to disposal;
- (8) Clarifying that the State's goal is to eliminate organic waste stream disposal via incineration, waste-to-energy, or landfill by 2040 and removing interim deadlines;
- (9) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (10) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that the benchmarks for organic waste generators are mandatory requirements and not reduction targets. Your Committee further notes that ensuring compliance with these benchmarks can be simplified by requiring haulers and processing facilities to report diversion rates, rather than mandating that each organic waste generator report tonnages. Your Committee also notes that further amendments may be needed to ensure that organic waste generators are authorized to use certain waste diversion methods, such as through food donation and turning organic waste into animal feed.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 751, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 751, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
 Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 605 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 787

The purpose of this measure is to require the Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission, with support from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, to study the feasibility of implementing a "buy clean" state policy and program, including an analysis of best practices and standards informed by scientific evidence.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Procurement Office; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation Commission; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; and Coalition Earth. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

Your Committee finds that upstream industrial greenhouse gas emissions from the lifecycle of construction materials are an untapped area for decarbonization. Your Committee further finds that numerous states have addressed these sources of emissions by adopting "buy clean" initiatives, which require environmental product declarations for materials used in the construction of capital public projects and direct state agencies to prioritize bids that use materials with the lowest environmental impact. This measure requires the Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission to study the feasibility of implementing a "buy clean" program in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests the Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission and State Procurement Office to collaborate on suggested amendments for this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 787, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 787, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
 Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 606 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 1019

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Expand the Hawaii Renewable Hydrogen Program to include identification of likely pumped storage hydropower locations, or sites for other long duration clean energy storage technologies, and promotion of their development and rename it as the Hawaii Renewable Hydrogen and Long Duration Clean Energy Storage Program;
- (2) Expand the use of the Hydrogen Investment Special Fund to include seed capital and venture capital investments for the Hawaii Renewable Hydrogen and Long Duration Clean Energy Storage Program; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for the Hawaii Renewable Hydrogen and Long Duration Clean Energy Storage Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Hawaii State Energy Office; Hawai'i Center for Advanced Transportation Technologies; Hawai'i Gas; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State must ensure that it has the ability to store locally produced clean energy in the event that there are disruptions to the supply and availability of imported energy commodities. This measure addresses this need by expanding the Hawaii Renewable Hydrogen Program to include identification of likely pumped storage hydropower locations or sites for other clean energy storage technologies and providing seed capital and investments for the Hawaii Renewable Hydrogen and Long Duration Clean Energy Storage Program.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$3,500,000 for the Hawaii Renewable Hydrogen and Long Duration Clean Energy Storage Program.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1019, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1019, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 607 Energy & Environmental Protection/Water & Land on H.B. No. 661

The purpose of this measure is to permit, except in certain circumstances, a previously authorized activity challenged as being subject to environmental review to continue while the applicable agency conducts an environmental assessment, prepares an environmental impact statement, or determines whether the activity is exempt.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Ocean Tourism Coalition; Holo Holo Charters; Captain Andy's Sailing Adventures; Fair Wind Cruises; Kona Sunrise Charters; Ka'anapali Beach Resort Association; Sailing Maui Inc.; Sea Paradise Scuba Inc.; Sea Quest Hawaii; Sail Maui; Body Glove Hawaii; Calypso Charters; OUTRIGGER Ka'anapali Beach Resort; Teralani Sailing; OUTRIGGER Hospitality Group; Absolute Charters Inc.; Maui Hotel and Lodging Association; Jack's Diving Locker; Maui Brewing Co.; Blue Dolphin Charters, Ltd.; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Explore Kauai Scuba, LLC; Sailing Shippo LTD; Activities & Attractions Association of Hawaii, Inc.; and numerous individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Earthjustice; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Green Party of Hawai'i; Free Access Coalition; Kupuna for the Moopuna; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; and numerous individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committees find that recent court decisions have broadened the types of actions that necessitate environmental review. Your Committees further find that this expansion subjects law-abiding operations, including commercial boating and recreational activities, to environmental review, causing disruptions to many businesses. This measure addresses this issue by allowing, except in certain circumstances, a previously authorized activity to continue while the applicable agency or applicant conducts an environmental assessment, prepares an environmental impact statement, or determines whether the activity is exempt.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committees note that there are still significant issues with this measure as written and that continued collaboration with various stakeholders will be necessary to make amendments to this measure as it moves forward.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and Water & Land that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 661, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 661, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Energy & Environmental Protection: Ayes, 5; Ayes with Reservations (Perruso). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

Water & Land: Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Shimizu, Souza). Noes, 2 (Iwamoto, Poepoe). Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 608 Higher Education on H.B. No. 531

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of special number plates to recognize the University of Hawaii Cancer Center.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i Cancer Center; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the introduction of a University of Hawaii Cancer Center special license plate will provide the public with a meaningful way to show their support for cancer research and treatment in the State. Your Committee further finds that the funds raised through the special license plate program

will help sustain and expand the Center's ability to provide state-of-the-art research and patient care, bringing direct benefits to the local workforce, healthcare industry, and economy.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 531, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Sayama).

SCRep. 609 Higher Education on H.B. No. 736

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a three-year New Wastewater System Technology Testing Pilot Program within the University of Hawaii Water Resources Research Center (Center).

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Department of Health; University of Hawai'i Water Resources Research Center; Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Water Quality Consulting, Inc.; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations; and six individuals.

Your Committee finds that new wastewater technologies and management solutions are being introduced that may improve public health and the environment, especially the protection of fragile coral reefs, and are more affordable than some traditional individual wastewater systems. Technologies that are reaching a commercial scale for the first time include solutions for individual homes, multi-unit dwellings, apartment buildings, and entire communities. At the neighborhood or municipal scale, these technologies could effectively treat sewage from entire communities for lower costs than existing technology now employed in Hawaii.

Your Committee further finds that these new technologies need to be tested in order to be certified by the Department of Health for use in the State. Your Committee notes that the University of Hawaii Water Resources Research Center has experience in such testing; however, the Center would need funding for a full-time coordinator, administrative efforts and infrastructure, and equipment costs for testing and analyses. This measure will establish a pilot program that will provide the Center with the resources it needs to test new wastewater system technologies to facilitate the technologies' certification for use in Hawaii.

Your Committee notes that the cost estimate provided by the Center in its testimony is \$745,325 for the three-year period of the New Wastewater System Technology Testing Pilot Program.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 736, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Sayama).

SCRep. 610 Higher Education on H.B. No. 1185

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a working group within the University of Hawaii at Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience to study and report on how best to grow plants and develop plant-based building materials in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from 350Hawaii.org; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; and Climate Protectors Hawai'i.

Your Committee finds that establishing a working group to conduct a study on growing plants that could be used for building materials in Hawaii will explore how best to develop a home-grown building materials industry and the creation of agricultural and green jobs in the State. Your Committee further finds that the knowledge and expertise offered by the University of Hawaii at Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience will help support the working group in conducting such a study.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1185, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1185, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Sayama).

SCRep. 611 Higher Education on H.B. No. 1300

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the University of Hawaii Cancer Center to conduct a multiethnic cohort study focusing on the social determinants of health, lifestyles, environmental exposures, and resilience factors of Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, and Filipinos, including an analysis of the health effects and risks of individuals living in close proximity to landfills in Nanakuli, Oahu.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; University of Hawai'i Cancer Center; University of Hawai'i at Mānoa John A. Burns School of Medicine; The Queen's Health Systems; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Ironworkers Stabilization Fund; Leukemia & Lymphoma Society; and seven individuals.

Your Committee finds that the appropriation made by this measure will fund vital resources needed by the University of Hawaii Cancer Center to help initiate a long-term study that will provide critical data to improve the cancer disparities and promote health equity in populations that experience high rates for many common cancers and continue to be understudied and underserved.

Your Committee notes that the cost to conduct the multiethnic cohort study as required by this measure is estimated to be \$500,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$500,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1300, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Sayama).

SCRep. 612 Higher Education on H.B. No. 1337

The purpose of this measure is to require the University of Hawaii at Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience (CTAHR) to establish an Endemic Plant Seed Bank Pilot Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; University of Hawai'i at Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Big Island Invasive Species Committee; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that CTAHR currently has a small seed production program focused exclusively on agriculturally important crop varieties. Your Committee further finds that CTAHR has the land and expertise to produce the endemic plant seeds through the Endemic Plant Seed Bank Pilot Program as required by this measure. Your Committee believes that the Endemic Plant Seed Bank Pilot Program is an important initiative that will preserve and promote the planting of plant species that are endemic to the State.

Your Committee notes that CTAHR estimates the cost to start the Endemic Plant Seed Bank Pilot Program will be approximately \$6,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1337, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Sayama).

SCRep. 613 Higher Education on H.B. No. 1352

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the University of Hawaii I Hoa Na Moololo Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Hawai'inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that the University of Hawaii I Hoa Na Moololo Program is a project developed by University of Hawaii Associate Professor Kahikina de Silva in 2021 to create a quarterly children's magazine for Kula Kaiapuni Hawaiian language immersion and charter school students from grades 2 through 6 on Oahu. Your Committee further finds that the I Hoa Na Moololo Program provides an efficient and cost effective way to sustain and strengthen 'Ōlelo Hawaii and meet the needs of Hawaiian language communities. This measure will provide funding for additional resources for I Hoa Na Moololo Program to continue its work in advancing the education of 'Ōlelo Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Allowing for the use of the funds appropriated for the University of Hawaii I Hoa Na Moololo Program to include the hiring of a graduate assistant, hiring of undergraduate writers, and acquiring a new website domain;
- (2) Changing the amount appropriated to an unspecified amount; and
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$179,378 for the University of Hawaii I Hoa Na Moololo Program.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1352, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1352, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Sayama).

SCRep. 614 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 1161

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Beginning July 1, 2028, authorize counties to impose a county mileage-based road usage charge for electric vehicles;
- (2) Clarify the collection and disposition of funds from the state and county mileage-based road usage charges, including the establishment of a State Mileage-Based Road Usage Charge Subaccount;
- (3) Clarify the rate for the state mileage-based road usage charge in the event the odometer information is missing, incomplete, or incorrect;
- (4) Subject motor scooters to motor vehicle insurance requirements;
- (5) Specify that rental motor vehicle companies may visibly pass to the consumer the costs of the state and county mileage-based road usage charges; and
- (6) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Hawai'i State Energy Office; Department of Customer Services of the City and County of Honolulu; Office of the Mayor of the County of Kaua'i; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; two members of the Maui County Council; Ulupono Initiative; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; Alliance for Automotive Innovation; and Hawaii Food Industry Association.

Your Committee finds that the increasing popularity of electric vehicles has presented opportunities and challenges for Hawaii's transportation infrastructure. The State's fuel tax revenue, which funds necessary road maintenance and infrastructure, is declining as more of the State's residents adopt electric vehicles. To address the loss of fuel tax revenue, Act 222, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, enacted a mileage-based road usage charge on electric vehicles to establish a fair and sustainable means of funding for the maintenance and improvement of roadways owned and maintained by the State. Your Committee further finds that the counties are facing a similar decline in county fuel tax revenue, leading to a shortfall in funding for the maintenance of county road infrastructure. This measure is intended to establish a mileage-based road usage charge on the county level to ensure that county roads and bridges are safe and accessible as Hawaii begins transitioning to a fair and sustainable source of transportation funding.

Your Committee also finds that plug-in hybrid electric vehicles, like electric vehicles, contribute to the declining fuel tax revenue since plug-in hybrid electric vehicles operate with minimal fuel consumption. Consequently, your Committee believes that plug-in hybrid electric vehicles should be subject to the state mileage-based road usage charge sooner than 2033, when the Department of Transportation is tasked with submitting a plan for transitioning all passenger vehicles and light-duty trucks to the state mileage-based road usage charge.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Extending the authorization for county mileage-based road usage charges to plug-in hybrid electric vehicles;
- (2) Defining "plug-in hybrid electric vehicle";
- (3) Clarifying that the county mileage-based road usage charge is to be paid each year following an electric vehicle's or a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle's most recent inspection, rather than registration;
- (4) Deleting the creation of the State Mileage-Based Road Usage Charge Subaccount;
- (5) Beginning July 1, 2026, extending the state mileage-based road usage charge to plug-in hybrid electric vehicles;
- (6) Deleting language that subjected motor scooters to the State's motor vehicle insurance requirements; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1161, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1161, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, none.

SCRep. 615 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 595

The purpose of this measure is to establish the right of a person to record law enforcement activities and a private right of action for any violation of the right to record law enforcement activities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that this measure codifies the constitutional right to record police activity, as recognized by the Hawaii Supreme Court in *State v. Russo*, 141 Haw. 181 (2017). This measure would also promote police accountability by creating a statutory right of action.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 595, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 595, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 616 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 550

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow video recordings made by law enforcement agencies who are using, controlling, or operating unmanned aerial vehicles to establish probable cause for arrests under the Fireworks Control Law if the unmanned aerial vehicle is recording directly above a public park, street, sidewalk, easement, or any public property and the act leading to the arrest is committed on a public street, sidewalk, or other public property; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to the Department of Law Enforcement for the purchase of unmanned aerial vehicles to monitor the use of illegal fireworks.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Honolulu Police Department; Hawaiian Humane Society; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Libertarian Party of Hawaii; and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that this measure will allow law enforcement to use drone footage as evidence of fireworks violations on public property. This will allow for better enforcement of fireworks violations and deter the use of illegal fireworks in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying when probable cause may be established by recordings made by unmanned aerial vehicles for acts committed on public property;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 550, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 550, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garcia).

SCRep. 617 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 740

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Accessory Dwelling Unit Financing and Deed Restriction Program to allocate funds to the counties to provide grants to eligible homeowners or homebuyers to finance construction costs, development costs, and non-reoccurring closing costs associated with the construction of an accessory dwelling unit and purchase deed restrictions on such property.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; one member of the Maui County Council; Office of Housing and Community Development of the County of Hawai'i; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Hawai'i YIMBY; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Holomua Collaborative; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Title Guaranty Hawaii; Hawai'i Gas; Mana Up; HPM Building Supply; aio; Tori Richard, Ltd; Housing Hawai'i's Future; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Taxation; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that this measure offers an effective solution to increase housing supply, especially in residential areas with available space for additional dwellings. Your Committee further finds that the Department of the Attorney General testified that the measure does not appear to contain legally sufficient standards for the award of such grants involving public money as required by the Hawaii State Constitution.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting appropriate standards for grant awards;
- (2) Clarifying the exemption from conveyance taxes; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that the Department of Taxation is requesting that the conveyance tax exemption take effect on January 1, 2026, to allow for form and instruction changes necessary to implement the proposed exemption.

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. 740, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 740, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garcia).

SCRep. 618 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 126

The purpose of this measure is to make the State's property forfeiture process more just by:

- (1) Increasing transparency and accountability surrounding property forfeiture;
- (2) Clarifying which property is subject to forfeiture;
- (3) Amending the authorized disposition of forfeited property and the proceeds thereof; and
- (4) Repealing language that requires the Hawaii Omnibus Criminal Forfeiture Act to be construed liberally.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Community Alliance on Prisons; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; and Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Honolulu Police Department. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that the State's existing property forfeiture process requires reform to ensure greater fairness, transparency, and accountability. This measure clarifies the types of property subject to forfeiture, adjusts the disposition of forfeited assets, mandates public record-keeping, and removes provisions that allowed for overly broad interpretations of the law.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

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. 126, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 126, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia, Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 619 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 29

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the counties to implement additional enforcement mechanisms, including the use of power of sale, to address severe public nuisances that remain unmitigated after the exhaustion of all other existing remedies.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Bankers Association and Grassroot Institute of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that authorizing the counties to collect on liens filed on properties through a non-judicial foreclosure process provides some leverage over property owners to comply or lose their property. If a property owner fails to comply and the property is foreclosed upon, this measure would enable the property to be put to productive use, allow liens attached to the property to be satisfied, and stop the accrual of additional debt on the property. This measure addresses the need of the counties to bring closure to pending civil fines imposed on property owners who are in violation of nuisance laws, ordinances, or rules.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that if a county utilizes its authority of power of sale, such authority must be exercised pursuant to the state law on foreclosures; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 29, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 29, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 620 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 472

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require digitized identification cards to be accepted as a valid form of identification, under certain conditions; and
- (2) Authorize state and county law enforcement agencies to accept a digitized identification card as proof of a person's identity.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that in August 2024, the Department of Transportation implemented Mobile Driver's License, which permits residents to add their driver's license or identification to an Apple digital wallet that allows users to present the digital or mobile form of their credential to verify, to the extent permitted by federal and state laws, identity and eligibility with the Transportation Security Administration instead of presenting a physical state-issued credential. This measure would build upon this effort by enabling digitized identification cards to be accepted as a valid form of identification in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 472, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 472, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 2 (Garcia, Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 621 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 662

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal the exemption for the expenditure of a candidate's own funds under the definition of contribution;
- (2) Make contributions by the candidate's immediate family subject to contribution limits; and
- (3) Amend the loan amount that a candidate or candidate committee may receive from the candidate's own funds or immediate family.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Free Access Coalition and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Campaign Spending Commission. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Campaign Spending Commission testified that it has concerns regarding the constitutionality of subjecting a candidate's use of the candidate's own funds to contribution and loan limits. Your Committee further finds that the Department of the Attorney General echoed these concerns but stated that limitations could be placed on a candidate's immediate family members.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have:
 - (A) Repealed the exemption for the expenditure of a candidate's own funds under the definition of contribution; and
 - (B) Amended the loan amount that a candidate or candidate committee may receive from the candidate's own funds;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 662, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 662, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 622 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 280

The purpose of this measure is to permanently establish and appropriate funds for the Community Outreach Court as a division of the District Court of the First Circuit.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Office of the Public Defender; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; and Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that since its inception, the Community Court Outreach Project has held several court sessions across Oahu. Through these sessions, the Community Court Outreach Project has addressed more than ten thousand cases, recalled more than nine hundred bench warrants, lifted more than seven thousand driver license stoppers, and assisted more than six hundred participants with social services or referrals. This measure would further support the Community Court Outreach Project and provide much needed resources and funding to assist the Court's clients and operations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Providing that the Community Outreach Court may only hear and dispose of cases involving nonviolent, nonfelony offenses under laws of the State and ordinances of the City and County of Honolulu determined to be appropriate by the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu;
- (2) Amending the process for the prosecuting attorney to select participants into the Community Outreach Court and enter into plea agreement negotiations;
- (3) Authorizing the Judiciary, pursuant to its appropriation for the operations of the Community Outreach Court, to enter into intergovernmental agreements or memorandums of understanding with any agency of the State or the City and County of Honolulu for the purpose of collaboration, cooperation, coordination, combination of resources, funding distribution, or the administration of Community Outreach Court; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 280, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 280, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 623 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 900

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a working group to improve family court processes, including access to legal representation for youth in the child welfare system.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Department of Human Services; Office of Wellness and Resilience; Hawaii Coalition for Child Protective Reform; National Center for Youth Law; HCANSpeaks!; HI H.O.P.E.S.; and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that this measure promotes collaboration with the judicial and legal system, partners, and lived-experience experts to continue to better outcomes for children, youth, families, and communities. Your Committee believes that it would be beneficial for a representative of the Department of Human Services Child Welfare Services Branch to participate in the working group.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the working group to include a representative of the Department of Human Services Child Welfare Services Branch;
- (2) Extending the deadline for the report by the working group to 2027;
- (3) Specifying that the appropriation may be used for members of the working group to make site visits and to assist with the report drafting; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 900, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 900, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 624 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 727

The purpose of this measure is to establish a three-year women's court pilot program in the Second, Third, and Fifth Circuits of the Judiciary to acknowledge the distinct pathways that lead women into the criminal justice system and address their individualized needs. Specifically, this measure:

- (1) Requires the pilot program to implement trauma-informed and evidence-based practices, employ gender-responsive programming, collaborate with stakeholders, and provide services to women in the court system with the goal of diverting participants from incarceration, supporting their success in the community, and reducing recidivism;
- (2) Appropriates funds to the Judiciary for equipment; mental health, substance abuse treatment, and other services; and the establishment of seven temporary positions for the pilot program; and
- (3) Requires the Judiciary to submit annual reports on the pilot program throughout its duration.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Judiciary; Office of the Public Defender; Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Kaua'i; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Maui; Community Alliance on Prisons; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that research has shown that gender-responsive approaches result in far better outcomes for women who face unique barriers to success after incarceration. Women offenders are more likely to be primary caregivers for young children, have lower educational attainment, lack stable work history, and experience economic or social marginalization. This measure seeks to address these barriers and improve outcomes for women offenders.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have established a three-year women's court pilot program in the Third Circuit of the Judiciary and instead requiring the Third Circuit of the Judiciary and Big Island Drug Court to study and submit a report on establishing a women's court pilot program in the Third Circuit;
- (2) Changing the number of temporary staff positions established in the Judiciary to an unspecified amount;
- (3) Inserting an appropriation for the Department of Health for the women's court pilot program, including the establishment of positions;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider establishing seven temporary positions in the Judiciary and an appropriation amount of \$801,802 to the Department of Health, including:

- (1) \$145,000 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) temporary clinical psychologist position;
- (2) \$76,788 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) temporary social worker/human services professional IV position; and
- (3) \$45,216 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) temporary social services assistant V position,

to be placed in the Department of Health.

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. 727, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 727, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 625 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 304

The purpose of this measure is to require that the Hawaiian version of a law be held binding if the law in question was originally drafted in Hawaiian and then translated into English.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that in 2007, the United Nations adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and this measure would contribute to the growing international movement for the protection of the rights of the world's indigenous peoples.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the Hawaiian version of a law shall be binding if the law has not been later amended, codified, recodified, or reenacted in English;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 304, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 304, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Todd).

SCRep. 626 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1362

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to expand the sewer network and lines within and throughout the Keaukaha homestead.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Office of the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i; and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that this measure is vital to the Keaukaha homestead community and would help protect the environment surrounding Hawaiian home lands in East Hawaii. The appropriated funds would allow the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to obtain the survey and inspections of the infrastructure needed to expand and make necessary upgrades to the century-old homestead.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the preamble;
- (2) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount; and
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$8,000,000.

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. 1362, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1362, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Todd).

SCRep. 627 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 278

The purpose of this measure is to require:

- (1) County police departments and police oversight agencies to collect and report certain data regarding police stops, uses of force, and complaints to the Crime Prevention and Justice Assistance Division of the Department of the Attorney General; and
- (2) The Crime Prevention and Justice Assistance Division of the Department of the Attorney General to collect and publish incident-level information and an annual report on the data collected.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; ACLU Hawai'i; Policing Project; Center for Policing Equity; Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii; National Police Accountability Project; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Police Department; Maui Police Department; State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Honolulu Police Department.

Your Committee finds that this data will help inform administrative decision-making regarding police practices, augment deliberations by police commissions, support academic analyses of the operation of the State's criminal legal system, and provide the public with a clearer picture of how each department is fulfilling its stated mission and values.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the information that must be included in the report on police stops related to electric guns and vehicle stops;
- (2) Requiring that the reports on use of force incidents and complaints use the nearest cross street or block number to avoid revealing specific residential addresses that are associated with the persons involved;
- (3) Prohibiting county police departments and police oversight agencies from disclosing unique personal identifying information about persons stopped, whom use of force was directed against, or who submitted the complaint or are the complainant;
- (4) Deleting language that would have made a county police department's or police oversight agency's eligibility to receive any state law enforcement funding or state-administered federal grant contingent upon the annual certification that the department or agency complied with the police data requirements;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration administers a grant program under Section 1906 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act to encourage states to maintain and allow public inspection of statistical information on the race and ethnicity of the driver for all motor vehicle stops made on public roads. The grant program, which was reauthorized through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act in November 2021, may be a possible source of funding for this measure.

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. 278, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 278, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 628 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1457

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Hawaiian Homes Commission to designate tax increment districts that may utilize tax increment financing; and
- (2) Require a county council to adopt a tax increment financing plan and ordinance establishing the tax increment district.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the counties have the exclusive authority to exercise all functions, powers, and duties relating to the taxation of real property under the Hawaii State Constitution. Your Committee further finds that the Department of the Attorney General testified that this measure may interfere with the counties' assessment and collection of tax increments, potentially infringing on their exclusive constitutional authority over real property taxation.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have authorized the Hawaiian Homes Commission to designate tax increment districts and required the county council to adopt a tax increment financing plan and ordinance establishing the tax increment district;
- (2) Authorizing the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to apply to the counties for tax increment financing;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the concerns raised by the Department of the Attorney General as it relates to real property taxation.

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. 1457, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1457, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 2 (Cochran, Todd).

SCRep. 629 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1483

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an adjudication system and procedures to process fireworks infractions;
- (2) Amend and establish various definitions and penalties for fireworks offenses, including establishing heightened penalties under certain circumstances;
- (3) Establish various criminal offenses and penalties related to fireworks or articles pyrotechnics; and
- (4) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Department of the Attorney General; Honolulu Police Department; Hawaiian Humane Society; Animal Interfaith Alliance in Britain; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaii Pyrotechnics and Explosives LLC; Libertarian Party of Hawaii; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that it has been difficult for state and county agencies to enforce or prosecute illegal fireworks cases in the State due to challenges with gathering evidence, meeting the high burden of proof necessary for convictions, and stringent definitions. This measure would largely address the concerns raised by prosecutors and provide greater clarity and efficiency for law enforcement, prosecutors, and the courts.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the offense of general fireworks or articles pyrotechnic prohibitions in the second degree to:
 - (A) Include throwing, catapulting, or otherwise manually propelling ignited aerial devices, articles pyrotechnics, consumer fireworks, or display fireworks; and
 - (B) Clarify when the state of mind requirement is not applicable;
- (2) Clarifying the definitions of "aerial device", "consumer fireworks", and "fireworks";
- (3) Clarifying the weight thresholds for certain penalties for fireworks offenses;
- (4) Restoring the authority of law enforcement officers to conduct inspections to verify compliance with fireworks laws;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1483, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1483, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Cochran). Noes, 1 (Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Garcia).

SCRep. 630 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 129

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit the assessment of any fees, fines, or court costs against a person who is adjudicated for an offense committed while the person was a minor under the age of eighteen, or against the person's parent or guardian;
- (2) Limit court-ordered community service for a minor to no more than seventy-two hours; and
- (3) Repeal certain penalties imposed on parents, guardians, or other persons associated with unaccompanied children in streets and unmarried minors in dance halls.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Office of the Public Defender; Community Alliance on Prisons; ACLU Hawai'i; 'Ekalu Mea Nui; Nā 'Ōpio Waiwai; Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i; Debt Free Justice Hawai'i; Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii; CARES; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary; Department of Education; and Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that the imposition of fees, fines, and costs on young people and their families can have wide-ranging consequences, none of which serves the purposes of rehabilitating, deterring, or punishing delinquent youth. Your Committee further finds that these monetary assessments have a disproportionate impact on families of color and can even lead to recidivism and escalating crime. This measure would follow the lead of other states by eliminating the economic burden of monetary assessments for Hawaii's youth and families.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Providing that if a minor is given community service for a violation of highway safety laws, the community service shall be limited to no more than seventy-two hours and not interfere with the minor's school or work commitments; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 129, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 129, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 631 Water & Land on H.B. No. 735

The purpose of this measure is to allow an individual wastewater system to serve up to five bedrooms, regardless of the number of dwelling units or accessory units, whether attached or detached, with certain exceptions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Hanalei Initiative; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that this measure would provide smaller-scale builders more flexibility in constructing housing to meet the needs of local residents, conform to individual lot configurations, and comply with county zoning rules.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the provisions of this measure also apply to dwellings; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 735, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 735, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 632 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 783

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Director of Finance to issue general obligation bonds and appropriate funds to finance capital improvement projects for irrigation systems in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Local Food Coalition; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Larry Jefts Farms, LLC; Maui County Farm Bureau; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Hawaii Crop Improvement Association; Molokai Irrigation System User Advisory Board; Molokai Farm Bureau; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Food+ Policy.

Your Committee finds that a reliable irrigation system is essential for sustaining Hawaii's agricultural industry, ensuring farmers and ranchers have consistent access to water for food production, livestock management, and long-term sustainability. Aging infrastructure and deferred maintenance have led to inefficiencies, water loss, and increased costs for agricultural producers. By authorizing funding for irrigation system improvements, this measure supports food security, economic stability, and the State's goal of increasing agricultural self-sufficiency.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting unspecified allocation amounts for specific irrigation system improvements throughout the State;
- (2) Converting the means of financing from the Irrigation System Revolving Fund to the general fund for certain positions in the Department of Agriculture;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$2,400,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$4,100,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for Waimea irrigation system improvements; \$15,000,000 for Waiahole irrigation system improvements; \$12,000,000 for Molokai irrigation system improvements; \$20,000,000 for East Maui irrigation system improvements; \$8,000,000 for Kohala ditch system improvements; \$18,000,000 for Upcountry Maui irrigation system improvements; \$12,000,000 for East Kauai irrigation system improvements; \$9,000,000 for Kokee irrigation system improvements; \$14,000,000 for Kekaha irrigation system improvements; \$15,000,000 for Wahiawa irrigation system improvements; and \$800,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$1,000,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for agricultural infrastructure improvements statewide.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 783, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 783, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 633 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 1427

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Department of Agriculture to prevent, monitor, and respond to avian influenza in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Agriculture; State Health Planning and Development Agency; Villa Rose/Waialua Eggs; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Kapapala Ranch; Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Carol Kwan Consulting, LLC; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from four individuals.

Your Committee finds that avian influenza, or bird flu, poses a significant threat to Hawaii's agriculture, public health, and unique ecosystems. The recent detection of H5N1 in backyard poultry and wastewater across the State underscores the urgent need for enhanced monitoring and biosecurity measures. While the current risk to humans is considered low, the virus has infected farm workers in other states, and its potential to mutate and spread more easily remains a serious concern. This measure addresses these risks by appropriating funds to the Department of Health and the Department of Agriculture to strengthen surveillance, response efforts, and public education on avian influenza. By investing in proactive monitoring, biosecurity protocols, and public awareness, this measure helps safeguard local farms, protect food production, and minimize the potential for widespread transmission.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$293,000 for the Department of Agriculture and between \$3,300,000 and \$4,700,000, depending on the availability of federal funds, for the Department of Health.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1427, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 634 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 685

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds and appropriate funds for the Agribusiness Development Corporation to purchase a land parcel in Kau on the County of Hawaii for agricultural development.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Agribusiness Development Corporation; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Synergistic Hawai'i Agriculture Council; Island Harvest; United Ka'u Farmers Cooperative; Ka'u Ocean Vista Coffee Estate; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that Kau has long been a cornerstone of Hawaii's agricultural heritage, transitioning from large-scale sugar plantations to a diverse range of farming enterprises, including coffee, macadamia nuts, fruit, vegetables, and livestock. Despite its agricultural potential, the region has often been overlooked for state farming initiatives, limiting opportunities for local farmers. This measure addresses that disparity by authorizing the acquisition of agricultural land in Kau to strengthen local farming operations, promote sustainability, and enhance food security.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the bond issuance and appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Indicating the name of the owner of the land to be acquired by the Agribusiness Development Corporation;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$2,931,960.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 685, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 685, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 635 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 1417

The purpose of this measure is to create an exclusion from income tax for the first \$50,000 of gross income earned by farmers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Kānalani Ohana Farm; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; and nine individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Department of the Attorney General; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's farming population is aging, with twice as many farmers over seventy-five as under thirty-five, and nearly eighty percent of farms generating less than \$25,000 annually. High operational costs make it difficult for new farmers to sustain viable businesses. This measure provides a state income tax exclusion on the first \$50,000 of gross income earned from farming, allowing farmers to reinvest in operations, expand production, and adopt sustainable practices.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the definition of "farm products";
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1417, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1417, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 636 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 1237

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Agriculture for agricultural biosecurity and the prevention, detection, and control of invasive species in Maui County.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawaii Invasive Species Council; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species; Carol Kwan Consulting, LLC; and Maui Chamber of Commerce. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that the absence of state agricultural inspectors and quarantine facilities on Molokai and Lanai leaves these islands highly vulnerable to the introduction and spread of invasive species. With high-risk pathways such as imported plants, mulch, and used farm equipment, invasive pests like little fire ants and coconut rhinoceros beetles pose a serious threat to local agriculture, ecosystems, and cultural resources. This measure addresses these vulnerabilities by appropriating funds to establish necessary biosecurity infrastructure in Maui County, including inspections, invasive species committees, and control measures.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriations and allocations to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Specifying that the appropriation for the Department of Agriculture to prevent and control little fire ant and coconut rhinoceros beetle infestations in Maui County includes the hiring of general professionals for biosecurity efforts, rather than Plant Quarantine Inspector I positions on Molokai and Lanai;
- (3) Clarifying that the appropriated funds to combat the spread of coqui frogs in Maui County shall be allocated to the University of Hawaii Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit, rather than directly to the Maui Invasive Species Committee;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$3,000,000 for the Department of Agriculture to prevent and control little fire ant and coconut rhinoceros beetle infestations in Maui County; and \$2,250,000 to combat the spread of coqui frogs in Maui County, including \$2,000,000 to the University of Hawaii Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit for the Maui Invasive Species Committee or its Molokai subcommittees and \$250,000 to establish a Lanai Invasive Species Committee.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1237, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1237, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 637 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 775

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Agriculture for permanent positions in agricultural biosecurity established by Act 231, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawaii Invasive Species Council; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Larry Jefts Farms, LLC; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association; East Oahu County Farm Bureau; Maui County Farm Bureau; Carol Kwan Consulting, LLC; and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that invasive species pose a persistent and escalating threat to Hawaii's agriculture, environment, and economy. Act 231, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, marked a significant step in strengthening the State's biosecurity infrastructure by increasing funding for essential programs and authorizing the hiring of forty-four essential positions within the Department of Agriculture. However, to ensure long-term effectiveness, these programs and positions must be made permanent. This measure addresses that need, ensuring that Hawaii remains resilient against invasive species.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language to include unspecified amounts of funding for the following biosecurity programs within the Department of Agriculture: Risk Assessment, Pest Management Systems Approach, Brown Tree Snake Rapid Response, Pest Diagnostics, Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Response, Green Waste, Compost Reimbursement, Public Awareness Campaign, Little Fire Ants Response, Coqui Frog Response, Invasive Species Outreach, Tech Upgrades, Import Replacement Fund, Biosecurity Facility Planning, Rose-Ringed Parakeet, and Two-Lined Spittlebug;
- (2) Inserting an appropriation amount to support the program and necessary personnel;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 775, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 775, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 638 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 319

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Exempt from the crime of cruelty to animals in the second degree the extermination of insects, vermin, and pests, and the extermination of feral chickens on private property by the property owner, under certain conditions; and
- (2) Require the Department of Agriculture to adopt rules concerning the humane extermination of insects, vermin, pests, and feral chickens.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one member of the Honolulu City Council and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Animal Rights Hawai'i and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture and Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that managing insects, vermin, invasive pests, and feral chickens is a growing concern for property owners across the State, as these animals can cause property damage, disrupt ecosystems, and pose public health risks. However, existing laws regarding animal cruelty are ambiguous around the extermination of these species, leading to challenges in effective pest control. This measure addresses these issues by exempting the extermination of insects, vermin, pests, and feral chickens from the crime of cruelty to animals in the second degree as long as the extermination follows standard and acceptable pest control practices and rules adopted by the Department of Agriculture. By clarifying legal parameters and establishing humane guidelines, this measure balances the need for effective pest management with ethical treatment considerations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Moving the exemptions from the crime of cruelty to animals in the second degree related to the extermination of insects, vermin, pests, and feral chickens to section 711-1109(2), Hawaii Revised Statutes, and specifying the conditions under which the exemptions apply, rather than requiring the Department of Agriculture to adopt rules to establish those conditions;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 319, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 319, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 639 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 984

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Lower and fix the state agricultural loan program's interest rates, increase loan limits, and reduce the required number of credit denials;
- (2) Establish a program for a secured line of credit and create a new loan initiative to encourage larger scale agriculture for import replacement and crops grown for farm to state programs; and
- (3) Appropriate funds into and out of the Agricultural Loan Revolving Fund to meet the anticipated increase in loan demand and to accommodate the increased loan limits.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; and Hawai'i Food+ Policy. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's farmers and ranchers face significant challenges in securing affordable capital to cover rising costs related to land, water, labor, and infrastructure. Access to financing is often a major barrier to expanding agricultural operations and increasing local food production. By providing farmers with the necessary financial tools, this measure promotes agricultural expansion, strengthens local food security, and ensures the long-term viability of Hawaii's farming industry.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying language in the preamble related to small and mid-sized farms being essential to Hawaii's food security, economic resilience, and self-sufficiency;
- (2) Including food hubs as an eligible entity for Class E loans;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 984, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 984, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 640 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 858

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Agriculture to revitalize and enhance the Agricultural Statistics Program to collect data on local agricultural interests; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for program expenses and certain positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Research and Development, County of Hawai'i; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association; and Hawai'i Food+ Policy. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System and Office of Information Practices.

Your Committee finds that accurate and timely agricultural data is essential for supporting Hawaii's farmers, strengthening the local food system, and guiding strategic decision-making for policymakers. By improving data collection, analysis, and reporting, this measure will support agricultural producers in optimizing operations, expanding market reach, and increasing food security.

Your Committee notes that the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience increased its capacity in agricultural economics with the hiring of two new agricultural economists last year, with an additional food and agricultural marketing faculty currently under recruitment.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying provisions related to the exemption of certain data and information collected from public disclosure, under certain conditions;
- (2) Changing the appropriation and allocation amounts to unspecified amounts;
- (3) Changing the number of authorized positions to unspecified numbers;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$880,000, including \$170,000 for the establishment of two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) agricultural economist positions; \$280,000 for the establishment of four full-time equivalent (4.0 FTE) research statistician positions; \$130,000 for the establishment of secured office space, equipment, the development of electronic data collection systems, and program expenses throughout the State; and \$300,000 for contracted specialty surveys to be conducted by third-party entities focusing on critical agricultural data needs.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 858, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 858, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 641 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 48

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify the labeling and advertising requirements for coffee that is grown and processed in the State; and
- (2) Make necessary distinctions between the definitions of "geographic origin" and "regional origin".

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and Hawai'i Food+ Policy.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii-grown and Hawaii-processed coffee is a cornerstone of the State's agricultural economy. However, misleading labeling practices have allowed coffee blends containing only a small percentage of locally grown and processed beans to be marketed in ways that confuse consumers and devalue authentic Hawaii coffee. By enhancing consumer protection and preserving the integrity of Hawaii's premium coffee brands, this measure safeguards local farmers' livelihoods, reinforces consumer trust, and supports the long-term sustainability of the State's coffee industry.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider adding an appropriation of \$65,000 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) Measurement Standards Inspector V position to support and restore enforcement capability for all labeling regulations for Hawaii products.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 48, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 48, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 642 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 1497

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require and appropriate funds for the Department of Agriculture to develop an online reporting tool to document applications of restricted use pesticides; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to convert temporary Environmental Health Specialist III positions into permanent positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Crop Improvement Association.

Your Committee finds that accurate and efficient reporting of restricted use pesticide applications is essential for ensuring regulatory compliance and protecting public health and the environment. While existing laws require users to submit annual reports on restricted use pesticide usage, the Department of Agriculture has faced challenges in fully implementing an online reporting system due to staffing instability. This measure addresses these issues by establishing and appropriating funds for a permanent online reporting system, ensuring users have a streamlined and consistent method for submitting data. Additionally, converting temporary positions to permanent status will provide stability within the Department's Pesticides Branch, allowing for proper outreach and education to facilitate full implementation of the reporting tool.

Your Committee notes the suggestion to require restricted use pesticide usage to be reported in consistent units of measurement.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the number of authorized positions to unspecified numbers;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider converting two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) temporary Environmental Health Specialist III positions into two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) permanent Environmental Health Specialist III positions.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1497, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1497, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 643 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 299

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Native Resources and Fire Protection Program and Hawaii Invasive Species Council to continue to control and eradicate invasive species in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Health; Department of Agriculture; Hawaii Invasive Species Council; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Climate Change and Health Working Group; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species; The Outdoor Circle; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; O'ahu Invasive Species Committee; Green Party of Hawai'i; Kauai Invasive Species Committee; Carol Kwan Consulting, LLC; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that invasive species pose a significant threat to Hawaii's ecosystems, agriculture, public health, and economy. The Hawaii Invasive Species Council plays a critical role in coordinating efforts across state, federal, and private entities to prevent, control, and eradicate harmful species such as the little fire ant, coqui frog, and fungi that cause rapid ohia death. Despite its essential work, the Hawaii Invasive Species Council's funding has remained stagnant while the demand for resources has grown, limiting its ability to fully address emerging threats. By supporting the Hawaii Invasive Species Council, this measure ensures a proactive and coordinated response to invasive species, protecting Hawaii's biodiversity, food security, and public health.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 299, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 644 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 1013

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an Important Agricultural Lands incentive to provide alternative means to develop housing for farmers and farm employees;
- (2) Authorize a landowner or lessee of Important Agricultural Lands to apply to a county for a permit allowing the landowner or lessee to develop, construct, and maintain farm cluster housing;
- (3) Require each county to enact ordinances to allow farm cluster housing on Important Agricultural Lands;
- (4) Establish requirements for farm cluster housing; and
- (5) Repeal existing requirements for farm dwellings and employee housing on Important Agricultural Lands.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Office of Planning & Sustainable Development; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; 'Āina Design Corp; and Hawai'i Food+ Policy. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Land Use Commission; Kunia Village Title Holding Corporation; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the lack of affordable and accessible housing for farmers and farm employees remains a significant barrier to expanding Hawaii's agricultural industry and increasing local food production. While Act 233, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008, provided an incentive for farm dwellings and employee housing on Important Agricultural Lands, concerns have arisen regarding unclear restrictions and the need for better-aligned housing solutions. By balancing the need for affordable farmworker housing with the preservation of Hawaii's most productive agricultural lands, this measure strengthens agricultural viability, promotes food security, and provides long-term stability for farmers and their families.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1013, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Perruso, Ward).

SCRep. 645 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 1294

The purpose of this measure is to require and appropriate funds for the Department of Agriculture to establish an Agricultural Workforce Housing Working Group to address the shortage and challenges of agricultural workforce housing.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Kanalani Ohana Farm; Hawai'i Farmers Union; and Hawai'i Food+ Policy. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture and Land Use Commission.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's agricultural industry is facing a severe workforce housing shortage, making it increasingly difficult for farmers and farmworkers to secure affordable housing near their worksites. The lack of accessible housing contributes to long commutes, increased operational costs, and worker shortages, ultimately threatening the sustainability of the State's agricultural sector. This measure addresses these challenges by establishing the Agricultural Workforce Housing Working Group, tasked with exploring policies and recommending solutions to provide farmworker housing while ensuring agricultural lands are protected from non-agricultural residential uses.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1294, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 646 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 222

The purpose of this measure is to amend the definition of "employee" in Hawaii's wage and hour law by excluding individuals who are primarily engaged in the range production of livestock.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Farm Bureau. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Your Committee finds that under Hawaii's existing wage and hour law, which includes, among other things, minimum wage and overtime requirements, the definition of "employee" already excludes any individual employed in agriculture for any workweek in which the employer of the individual employs less than twenty employees. Your Committee further finds that livestock production employees have unique needs and tasks that vary widely from day to day and therefore require more flexibility than is currently provided under the wage and hour law, including under the existing exemption for certain agricultural employees. This measure would grant that additional flexibility by exempting from the requirements of the wage and hour law employees of livestock producer employers for any workweek in which the employer employs twenty or more employees.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 222, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, 1 (Perruso). Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 647 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 915

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Board of Agriculture to investigate and survey the availability of non-potable water;
- (2) Authorize the Commission on Water Resource Management to require the use of dual line water supply systems in new residential and mixed-used developments located in designated water management areas; and
- (3) Include residential and mixed-use developments in irrigation projects under certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Department of Health. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's growing population and increasing development place significant pressure on the State's limited water resources, making conservation efforts critical for long-term sustainability. This measure takes a proactive approach to water management by authorizing the Board of Agriculture to investigate and survey the availability of non-potable water, allowing for better resource planning. Additionally, this measure empowers the Commission on Water Resource Management to require dual line water supply systems in new residential and mixed-use developments within designated water management areas, enhancing water conservation efforts while maintaining public health and safety for Hawaii's water resources.

Your Committee notes the concerns regarding whether the Department of Agriculture or the counties are better suited to provide irrigation services to certain residential and mixed-use developments with dual line water supply systems.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 915, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 648 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 365

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the farming of certain non-wild-caught octopuses for human consumption.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Animal Rights Hawai'i; Animal Legal Defense Fund; Animal Rights Initiative; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; and nine individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the National Aquaculture Association; Hawaii Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that octopus farming presents significant risks to marine ecosystems, commercial fisheries, and animal welfare. Farmed octopuses are known to carry multiple pathogens, including parasites and bacterial infections, which can spread to wild marine species, disrupting the food web and amplifying disease transmission. In addition to these ecological concerns, octopus farming has raised ethical issues due to the species' advanced cognitive abilities. This measure addresses these concerns by prohibiting the farming of certain non-wild-caught octopuses for human consumption, ensuring the protection of marine biodiversity and promoting the ethical treatment of marine life.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 365, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 365, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 649 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.B. No. 92

The purpose of this measure is to include agricultural businesses as a qualified high technology business to receive tax credits for certain research activities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Agribusiness Development Corporation; Hawaii Crop Improvement Association; and Corteva Agriscience. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's agricultural industry faces increasing challenges, including climate change impacts, rising production costs, and the need to meet growing consumer demand. To support innovation and sustainability in the sector, this measure expands the State's research and development tax credit by including agricultural businesses as qualified high technology businesses, allowing them to benefit from tax incentives for research activities. By

incentivizing investment in agricultural research and development, this measure further fosters the development of advanced farming technologies and strengthens Hawaii's economy, ultimately enhancing food security and economic resilience.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the definitions for "qualified high technology business" and "small business";
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider that the provisions of this measure should apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 92, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 92, H.D. 2, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5; Ayes with Reservations (Perruso). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 650 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 943

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Expand existing crisis intervention programs by implementing a homeless triage and treatment center program for homeless individuals and individuals at risk of being homeless, and who have substance abuse issues or mental illness, within the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division in the Department of Health; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to the Department of Health to implement the program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Statewide Office on Homelessness & Housing Solutions; Department of Health; Office of the Public Defender; Waikiki Health; The Institute for Human Services, Inc.; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii has one of the highest per capita rates of homelessness in the nation, with a significant portion of the homeless population experiencing chronic homelessness, mental illness, substance use disorders, and other disabling conditions. Many of these individuals frequently rely on emergency medical services, costing the State's health care system millions of dollars each year. Despite the efforts of existing crisis intervention programs, a major gap remains in the State's behavioral health care system for homeless individuals in need of immediate intervention. This measure establishes a homeless triage and treatment center program within the Department of Health's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division to expand these critical services statewide.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$5,400,000, which includes the costs for facility acquisition and renovation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 943, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 943, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 651 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 640

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Office of the Ombudsman to publish a quarterly report on its website that identifies the number and nature of complaints that it receives regarding the Child Welfare Services Branch of the Department of Human Services; and
- (2) Require the Child Welfare Services Branch to provide notification to certain parties that complaints can also be filed with the Office of the Ombudsman.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Coalition for Child Protective Reform. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services; Office of the Ombudsman; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's child welfare system plays a crucial role in protecting children and supporting families, yet concerns remain regarding its responsiveness and transparency. Families navigating the system often struggle to voice their grievances or seek resolution when issues arise. This measure addresses these challenges by strengthening oversight and accountability through the Office of the Ombudsman, ensuring that complaints regarding the Child Welfare Services Branch are independently reviewed and properly addressed.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the Office of the Ombudsman publish an annual, rather than quarterly, report on its website;
- (2) Clarifying that the Child Welfare Services Branch shall be required to notify birth families, children in foster care, and resource caregivers that they can file a complaint with the Office of the Ombudsman; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 640, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 640, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 652 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 549

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for an Early Learning Apprenticeship Grant Program, to be administered by the University of Hawaii, to assist publicly- or privately-run early learning program service providers participating in state- and federally-approved early learning apprenticeship programs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; University of Hawai'i System; Early Learning Board; Executive Office on Early Learning; Department of Community Services of the City and County of Honolulu; American Association of University Women of Hawaii; Keiki O Ka 'Āina Family Learning Centers; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Commit to Keiki; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that access to high-quality early learning programs is essential for fostering childhood development, supporting working families, and strengthening Hawaii's workforce. However, the early learning sector faces a critical shortage of qualified professionals due to challenges in recruitment, retention, and fair compensation. This measure addresses these issues by establishing an Early Learning Apprenticeship Grant Program, which will provide financial assistance to early learning service providers participating in state- and federally-approved apprenticeship programs. By incentivizing participation in these programs, this measure ensures a well-trained workforce, expands access to early learning opportunities, and promotes economic stability for educators and families.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 549, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 549, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 653 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 1498

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the Motion Picture, Digital Media, and Film Production Income Tax Credit for qualified productions that utilize qualified production facilities located within the State;
- (2) Change the cap amount and aggregate cap amount of the Motion Picture, Digital Media, and Film Production Income Tax Credit to unspecified amounts; and
- (3) Exempt from the General Excise Tax amounts received by a motion picture project employer from a client equal to amounts that are disbursed by the motion picture project employer for employee wages, salaries, payroll taxes, insurance premiums, and employment benefits.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i; Honolulu Film Office of the City and County of Honolulu; SAG-AFTRA; IATSE Local 665; Motion Picture Association, Inc.; Island Film Group; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Hawaii Media Inc.; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the film, television, and digital media production industry is an asset to the State's economy that should be further leveraged to promote economic growth and job creation. This measure addresses this need by increasing the aggregate cap on the Motion Picture, Digital Media, and Film Production Income Tax Credit and the cap per qualified production and exempting certain expenses related to employee compensation and payments to loan-out companies from the General Excise Tax.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Including production, as defined in the Motion Picture, Digital Media, and Film Production Income Tax Credit law, as a form of manufacturing for the purposes of imposing the lower 0.5 General Excise Tax rate on productions, and repealing the provision in the definition of "qualified production costs" that limited the term to mean costs incurred that are subject to the highest General Excise Tax rate;
- (2) Including payments to loan-out companies in the exemptions from the General Excise Tax;
- (3) Changing the effective date for the provisions establishing General Excise Tax exemptions to January 1, 2026; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1498, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1498, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Todd, Matsumoto).

SCRep. 654 Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 976

The purpose of this measure is to advance Hawaii's commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by:

- (1) Establishing a temporary Sustainable Aviation Fuel Import Income Tax Credit; and
- (2) Amending the Renewable Fuels Production Tax Credit by:
 - (A) Increasing the tax credit rate;
 - (B) Repealing the cap on claimable credits per taxpayer per taxable year and increasing the cap on total claimable credits for all eligible taxpayers per calendar year;
 - (C) Specifying that the credit may be claimed for fuels that meet certain lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions and product transportation emissions;
 - (D) Adding credit values for low lifecycle emissions renewable fuels and sustainable aviation fuels produced;
 - (E) Allowing a taxpayer who previously claimed a credit to claim another credit for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024;
 - (F) Amending the credit period to be for a maximum period of ten consecutive years, beginning from the effective date of this Act; and

(G) Amending the required information in the certified statement for the credit.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Coalition Earth; Pono Pacific; Hawai'i Renewable Fuels Coalition; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Airlines for America; Biotechnology Innovation organization; Twelve Benefit Corporation; Par Hawaii; Aloha Carbon; Pacific Biodiesel; Japan Airlines; and Hawaiian Electric. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; Energy Justice Network; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Hawaii State Energy Office; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; Simonpietri Enterprises; Hawaii Environmental Change Agents, Solid Waste Reduction Task Force; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and transitioning to a decarbonized economy. Your Committee further finds that increasing the use and production of renewable fuels will spur investment in the local economy and support job growth while providing substantial environmental benefits.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the temporary Sustainable Aviation Fuel Import Income Tax Credit;
- (2) Reinstating the \$20,000,000 aggregate cap on Renewable Fuels Production Tax Credits claimable by all eligible taxpayers per taxable year and removing the incremental increases of this cap per calendar year;
- (3) Including biogas or renewable natural gas, gaseous carbon dioxide, and renewable or zero carbon energy resources in the definition of "renewable feedstocks";
- (4) Clarifying that fuels must meet the lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions reduction threshold to be considered "renewable fuels";
- (5) Removing the qualification that liquid fuel must be derived from biomass resources, waste streams, renewable or zero carbon energy sources, or gaseous carbon oxides to meet the definition of "sustainable aviation fuel"; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 976, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 976, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Todd, Matsumoto).

SCRep. 655 Economic Development & Technology/Tourism on H.B. No. 1077

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Department of Defense to fund projects that strengthen the State's resiliency against climate change;
- (2) Require the Department of Defense to convene a selection committee to review and recommend projects for Climate Mitigation and Resiliency Special Fund allocation;
- (3) Establish the Climate Mitigation and Resiliency Special Fund;
- (4) Establish the Economic Development and Revitalization Special Fund;
- (5) Increase the Transient Accommodations Tax and allocate a portion of the tax to the two newly established special funds; and
- (6) Appropriate funds into and out of the special funds.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Governor; Office of the Governor Recovery and Resiliency Unit; Hawai'i Climate Advisory Team; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Emergency Management Agency; Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority; Hawaii State Energy Office; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Coalition Earth; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Hawai'i Ocean Legislative Task Force; Care for 'Āina Now Coalition; The Nature Conservancy Hawai'i and Palmyra; Pacific Whale Foundation; Hawai'i Workforce Funders Collaborative; Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association; and five individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Kohala Coast Resort Association; Libertarian Party of Hawaii; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and seven individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Taxation; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committees find that the State must increase its funding for efforts that address the impacts of climate change and contribute to economic development and revitalization. Your Committees recognize that designating allocations to the general fund for these purposes may be a more appropriate funding mechanism.

Accordingly, your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the contents of the measure except for the provisions increasing the Transient Accommodations Tax;
- (2) Allocating portions of the revenue from the Transient Accommodations Tax to the General Fund, instead of the special funds, to be earmarked for projects addressing climate change impacts and advancing economic development and revitalization; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Economic Development & Technology and Tourism that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1077, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it be referred to your Committee on Finance, in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1077, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Economic Development & Technology: Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Holt, Todd, Matsumoto).

Tourism: Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Holt, Todd, Matsumoto).

SCRep. 656 Labor on H.B. No. 1221

The purpose of this measure is to require a bidder for certain public works contracts to utilize apprentices if they received a bidding advantage and were awarded the contract for being a party to an apprenticeship agreement registered with the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Procurement Office; Department of Accounting and General Services; and Goodfellow Bros. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the General Contractors Association of Hawaii and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260.

Your Committee finds that a well-trained workforce is essential for Hawaii's economic growth and the successful construction of public buildings, infrastructure, and other development projects. Apprenticeship programs help individuals gain their best knowledge of a particular trade, especially if those individuals can take the knowledge they learn and apply their knowledge and skills in public works construction. Your Committee also finds that under existing law, the bid preference for bidders when the bidder is a party to an apprenticeship agreement registered with the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations bidder, does not require the bidder to utilize those apprentices, and therefore bidders can hire subcontractors to complete the work for the public works contract. Your Committee also finds that the apprentices in registered programs with the State are losing out on opportunities to get hands-on experience on the State's own projects which is not what the Hawaii Apprenticeship Law was intended to do. Your Committee believes that requiring bidders and their subcontractors for public works construction who take advantage of the bidding incentive under existing law to actually use apprentices for the contracted work is not only fairer but also ensures that quality workers will help maintain a supply of skilled labor, support workforce development, and enhance the outcomes of public works construction.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting legislative findings to clarify that the intent of this measure is to further provide an incentive for bidders to host apprentices who are in registered apprenticeship programs with the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations;
- (2) Clarifying that the requirements under this measure also apply to the bidder's subcontractors and provide for a five percent bid preference;
- (3) Inserting language to allow contractors to be found in default of the contract award;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1221, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1221, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 657 Labor on H.B. No. 1144

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Department of Land and Natural Resources to employ civil service and non-civil service professionals and technical staff in its State Historic Preservation Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and Department of Land and Natural Resources. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee finds that the State Historic Preservation Program is faced with high vacancy rates for professional and technical staff. Your Committee recognizes that exempting certain positions from civil service status is a great incentive to attract qualified candidates, retain staff, and offer competitive wages.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that professional and technical staff are exempt from civil service; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1144, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1144, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 658 Labor on H.B. No. 1424

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the transfer of funds appropriated for the purposes of filling vacancies to operating expenses.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Grassroot Institute of Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services and Department of Accounting and General Services.

Your Committee finds that the Legislature appropriates millions of dollars for the purposes of filling vacant positions throughout the State. Your Committee also finds that funds allotted to departments and agencies are sometimes transferred within the department or agency to cover operating expenses instead of filling vacant positions. Your Committee believes that this measure ensures funds appropriated by the Legislature to fill vacant positions are used for their intended purpose by prohibiting the transfer of these funds for operating expenses and vice versa.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1424, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1424, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 659 Labor on H.B. No. 1298

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to establish a Government Employee Housing Revolving Fund Program and Government Employee Ninety-Nine Year Leasehold Rent-to-Own Program; and
- (2) Establish the Government Employee Housing Revolving Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the State's high cost-of-living contributes to unaffordable housing prices and makes it difficult for residents to save money to own a home. Your Committee also finds that many government employees do not earn enough wages to own property, especially when they have families to provide for. Your Committee believes that this measure can provide a path toward home ownership for government employees, and possibly attract candidates to apply for government jobs.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting grant standards as recommended by the Department of the Attorney General to comply with the requirements for awarding grants of public money in article VII, section 4 of the Hawaii State Constitution; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1298, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1298, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 660 Labor on H.B. No. 741

The purpose of this measure is to exempt certain projects funded by the Affordable Homeownership Revolving Fund from prevailing wages provisions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Hawaii Habitat for Humanity Association; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Habitat for Humanity Hawaii Island, Inc.; and Hawai'i Community Lending. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Pacific Resource Partnership; Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Affordable Homeownership Revolving Fund has limited resources to afford the costs associated with the construction of affordable homes and meet prevailing wages requirements. Your Committee recognizes that prevailing wages requirements ensure that workers are fairly compensated however, your Committee finds that it is important to encourage affordable housing development for residents.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 741, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4; Ayes with Reservations (Lee). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 661 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 505

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Red Hill Water Alliance Initiative (WAI) policy coordinator to coordinate WAI initiatives across state and county agencies and appropriate federal entities; and
- (2) Create the Red Hill Remediation Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; University of Hawai'i System; Honolulu Board of Water Supply; Shimanchu Wai Protector; Hui Malama Pono Hawai'i; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; United Methodist Church, Hawai'i District; Coalition Earth; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility continues to pose a serious environmental and public health threat, particularly after the 2021 fuel spill that directly affected ninety-three thousand individuals served by the Navy's potable water system. The Red Hill Water Alliance Initiative (WAI), which was formed in 2023 to address the aftermath and remediation of the site, has provided crucial recommendations for action. This measure adopts recommendations of the Red Hill WAI, establishing a Red Hill Water Alliance Initiative policy coordinator and the Red Hill Remediation Special Fund, which will give state and county officials a clear understanding of the WAI, its mission, expectations, objectives and reporting requirements.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 505, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 662 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 1421

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a Cesspool Conversion On-Bill Financing Program to provide low-interest loans to eligible homeowners for the upgrade, conversion, or connection of cesspools.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Coral Reef Coalition; Public Access to SunScreens Coalition; WAI: Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations; Hawai'i Wai Ola; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Health; State Procurement Office; and The Nature Conservancy.

Your Committee finds that all cesspools, with certain exemptions, are required to be upgraded or converted to Director of Health-approved wastewater systems or connected to sewerage systems by January 1, 2050. Your Committee further finds that the upfront costs of cesspool conversions are a barrier that prevents many cesspool owners from abiding by the conversion requirements. This measure addresses this issue by establishing a Cesspool Conversion On-Bill Financing Program to provide low-interest loans to eligible homeowners for the upgrade, conversion, or connection of cesspools.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1421, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1421, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 663 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 810

The purpose of this measure is to establish a private right of action for any person aggrieved by a violation of the Federal Aviation Act and existing federal laws to bring a civil action against the owner or operator of the helicopter in violation and collect damages and litigation costs.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Jack Harter Helicopters. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that helicopter noise pollution is a significant issue impacting residents and communities in Hawaii, often creating disturbances that affect quality of life. This measure classifies helicopters as a public nuisance due to noise pollution and establishes a private right of action for individuals affected by violations of federal aviation laws, thereby empowering citizens to seek remedies for noise pollution relating to helicopters.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 810, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4; Ayes with Reservations (Kusch). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 664 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 348

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit lodging establishments from providing personal care products in small plastic containers within sleeping room accommodations, any space within sleeping room accommodations, or bathrooms used by the public or guests.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Surfrider Foundation, Hawai'i Region; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Starn O'Toole Marcus & Fisher; and Maui Chamber of Commerce.

Your Committee finds that single-use plastic containers in lodging establishments contribute significantly to plastic pollution and environmental degradation in the State. This measure supports the State's goals of promoting sustainable tourism and reducing waste by prohibiting lodging establishments from providing personal care products in small plastic containers within certain sleeping and bathroom accommodations.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 348, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 665 Energy & Environmental Protection/Water & Land on H.B. No. 1367

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds and appropriate funds to the Honolulu Board of Water Supply for the planning, design, and construction of two monitoring wells.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Board of Water Supply of the City and County of Honolulu; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; and three individuals.

Your Committees find that it is estimated that the Red Hill bulk fuel storage facility, located above Oahu's sole-source groundwater aquifer, has released between 644,000 and 1,940,000 gallons of fuel during its eighty years of operation. Your Committees further find that contaminants from the facility can migrate to various well sources managed by the Honolulu Board of Water Supply and present a serious risk to Oahu's groundwater resources. This measure authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds and appropriates funds to the Honolulu Board of Water Supply to install monitoring wells, which will provide critical data to assess contamination risks and guide efforts to protect Oahu's drinking water.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the maximum number of monitoring wells to be funded from two to six;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committees respectfully request your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$20,000,000.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and Water & Land that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1367, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1367, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Energy & Environmental Protection: Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

Water & Land: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 666 Energy & Environmental Protection/Water & Land on H.B. No. 1404

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to create residential sewer connection and cesspool closure subsidy pilot programs to assist with sewer projects nearing implementation in Ewa Beach, Oahu and Keaukaha, Hawaii.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Health; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; and three individuals.

Your Committees find that every cesspool in the State, excluding those granted certain exemptions, must be upgraded or converted to a Director of Health-approved wastewater system or connected to a sewerage system by January 1, 2050. Your Committees further find that in some areas that currently have

cesspools, counties are planning to install new wastewater infrastructure to connect homes to county sewers. Your Committees believe that the State should support these initiatives and offer a subsidy to homeowners for their portion of the sewer lateral connections to help offset costs. This measure addresses this need by appropriating funds to create residential sewer connection and cesspool closure subsidy pilot programs to assist with sewer projects nearing implementation.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriations to an unspecified amount and deleting the appropriations for fiscal year 2026-2027;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committees respectfully request your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider appropriation amounts of:

- (1) \$12,000,000 for the City and County of Honolulu to establish a Residential Sewer Connection and Cesspool Closure Subsidy Pilot Program; and
- (2) \$6,000,000 for the County of Hawaii to establish a Residential Sewer Connection and Cesspool Closure Subsidy Pilot Program.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and Water & Land that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1404, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1404, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Energy & Environmental Protection: Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

Water & Land: Ayes, 8. Noes, 1 (Iwamoto). Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 667 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 359

The purpose of this measure is to amend the covered offender registration laws to:

- (1) Include offenders who, while acting in a professional capacity, commit either the offense of sexual assault in the fourth degree or sexual assault in the second degree against a minor who is at least sixteen years old; and
- (2) Require public disclosure for covered offenses that are committed against minors, regardless of whether the conviction was for a first-time misdemeanor offense.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Crime Victim Compensation Commission; Honolulu Police Department; and The Sex Abuse Treatment Center. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that sex offenders pose a significant threat to public safety due to high rates of recidivism, and existing registration laws contain gaps that allow certain offenders to evade public detection. Under existing law, individuals in positions of trust, such as teachers, coaches, or religious leaders, who commit sexual assault in the fourth degree against a minor at least sixteen years old are not required to publicly disclose their sex offender registration information. This measure addresses this loophole, strengthens protections for minors, and prevents individuals in positions of authority from continuing to exploit vulnerable youth.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that a person who is required to report every year under the covered offender registration requirements shall report each year during the thirty-day period following the offender's birthday, rather than from the offender's actual date of birth;
- (2) Clarifying how the added offenses established by this measure will be tiered for purposes of seeking termination of registration requirements;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 359, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 359, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 668 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 383

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Reinstate mandatory minimum jail sentences for successive violations of the same order for protection;
- (2) Remove the distinction between domestic and non-domestic violations of an order for protection; and
- (3) Eliminate the court's ability to suspend mandatory minimum sentences.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Honolulu Police Department; County of Hawai'i, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu; Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Domestic Violence Action Center; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender.

Your Committee finds that protective orders are essential tools in preventing further harm to individuals facing threats or violence. However, repeated violations of these orders demonstrate a pattern of disregard for the consequences of the violation and an escalation on behalf of the abusive partner, which highlights the need for stronger enforcement measures. Currently, inconsistencies in sentencing for violations of temporary restraining orders and protective orders undermine their effectiveness, allowing abusers to disregard court mandates with minimal consequences. This measure ensures that all court-issued protections carry the same level of accountability and reinforces the seriousness of protective orders, deterring future violations and providing victims with greater assurance of safety.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that a conviction of a temporary restraining order issued under the same judicial case number as the order for protection shall be treated as a second or subsequent violation of an order for protection;

- (2) Reinstating statutory language that authorizes the court to suspend mandatory minimum sentences under certain conditions;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 383, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 383, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 669 Tourism/Water & Land on H.B. No. 504

The purpose of this measure is to increase the transient accommodations tax to establish a source of revenue for environmental stewardship, to be implemented through additional funding to the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Malama Maunaloa; Care for 'Āina Now Coalition; Makahanaloa Fishing Association; Resources Legacy Fund; Hawai'i Land Trust; Hawai'i Ocean Legislative Task Force; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Mālama Learning Center; Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea; Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement; The Nature Conservancy - Hawai'i and Palmyra; Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i; Kupu; Ho'ōla Farms; and numerous individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Kohala Coast Resort Association; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and numerous individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Hawai'i Tourism Authority; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committees find that a modest, reasonable increase in the transient accommodations tax can generate sorely needed funding to support the restoration of the State's valuable natural resources, help prevent and respond to the climate crisis, and leave a strengthened environmental legacy for future generations.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Having the new rates for the transient accommodations tax take effect on January 1, 2027;
- (2) Having the tax per night on each furnishing of a transient accommodation in exchange for points, miles, or other amounts provided through a membership, loyalty, or rewards program take effect on January 1, 2027;
- (3) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Tourism and Water & Land that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 504, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 504, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Tourism: Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Holt, Hussey, Matsumoto).

Water & Land: Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Belatti, Woodson).

SCRep. 670 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 1179

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Provide a statutory framework for the licensure of rural emergency hospitals at the state level; and
- (2) Provide for the continuation of Medicaid policy protections for hospitals transitioning to a rural emergency hospital designation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Corporate Board of Directors; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; and Maui Health System. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that there is a growing crisis of rural hospital closures nationwide. Since 2010, over one hundred fifty rural hospitals have closed, drastically reducing access to essential health care services for communities in need.

Your Committee further finds that to address this crisis, Congress created the Rural Emergency Hospital designation in section 125 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021. The Rural Emergency Hospital designation was designed to provide a lifeline to these critical facilities by allowing existing Critical Access Hospitals and small rural hospitals to convert their operations to this new financial model, which seeks to support the continuation of emergency and outpatient services without the financial strain of maintaining inpatient care. To fully take advantage of this new designation, state law is necessary to license the facilities at the state level. This measure allows these facilities to shift to a model of health care that will allow them to stay financially viable.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1179, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Matayoshi, Lowen, Tam).

SCRep. 671 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 250

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Examine prior authorization practices in the State by requiring utilization review entities to report certain data to the State Health Planning and Development Agency;
- (2) Establish timelines for the approval of prior authorization requests to reduce delays for urgent and non-urgent health care services; and
- (3) Establish the Health Care Appropriateness and Necessity Working Group to make recommendations to improve and expedite the prior authorization process.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; State Health Planning and Development Agency; Hawai'i Association of Professional Nurses; Hawaii Academy of Family Physicians; 'Ahahui o nā Kauka; Hawaii Medical Association; Mohala Health LLC; American

College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Hawaii Section; East Hawaii Independent Physicians Association; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Medical Service Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Association of Health Plans.

Your Committee finds that prior authorization is a health plan cost control process that requires physicians, other health care professionals, and hospitals to obtain advance approval from a health plan before a specific service to a patient to qualify for payment or coverage. Your Committee further finds that prior authorization imposes unnecessary delays in treatment. For example, in one survey, eighty-three percent of requests are subsequently overturned by the health plan. This measure streamlines and increases transparency of the prior authorization process.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Extending the deadline, from twenty-four hours to fourteen days, by which a health care facility or health care professional is required to submit requested information before the facility or professional would be required to submit a new prior authorization request to a utilization review entity;
- (2) Amending the composition of the Health Care Appropriateness and Necessity Working Group; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 250, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 250, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 672 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 1325

The purpose of this measure is to require developers of affordable housing projects under the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to assist certain tenants who are subject to displacement or eviction by the proposed project by:

- (1) Granting certain persons displaced or evicted by the proposed affordable housing project the right of first refusal of a comparable unit in the housing project at an affordable rate or establish a fund to provide relocation benefits and offer assistance to the tenants;
- (2) Providing information, either directly or through a contracted service, on how to obtain assistance and exercise the right of first refusal; and
- (3) Establishing procedures to maintain communication with displaced and evicted tenants.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Tagnawa for Maui; Hawai'i YIMBY; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Adult Friends for Youth; Hui Malama Pono Hawai'i; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Lāhainā Strong; Medical Legal Partnership for Children in Hawai'i; Hawai'i Workers Center; Maui Housing Hui; Parents And Children Together; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that the creation of new affordable housing units is an important aspect of the State's efforts to address the existing housing crisis in Hawaii. However, the creation of new affordable housing units through the redevelopment of existing housing displaces and dislocates those tenants. This measure specifies a clear procedure for developers to follow when redeveloping areas on which existing tenants reside.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying consequences for a developer's failure to comply with the requirements of this measure; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1325, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1325, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 673 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 557

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Update the State's laws on telehealth services to conform with federal Medicare regulations;
- (2) Require the Insurance Commissioner to report to the Legislature on reimbursements claimed in the previous year for certain telehealth services; and
- (3) Repeal the sunset date of Act 107, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; State Health Planning and Development Agency; AARP Hawai'i; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hina Mauka; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Hawai'i Mental Health Coalition; AlohaCare; Alzheimer's Association - Hawaii Chapter; and Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Medical Service Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of Health; Department of Human Services; University of Hawai'i System; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawaii Medical Association; The Queen's Health Systems; Hawaii Association of Health Plans; and ATA Action.

Your Committee finds that the use and expansion of telehealth services and technology in the State have been recognized as a way to increase access and reduce delays to health care, particularly in rural areas of the State. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, telehealth became essential as the health care system and patients adjusted to the new realities, and as a result, the United States Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services authorized, among other changes, reimbursement for audio-only telehealth services.

Your Committee further finds that this measure is intended to conform telehealth definitions under state law to be consistent with recent federal guidance. However, your Committee notes that there are currently numerous uncertainties regarding federal health care policy, including how the federal government may interpret reimbursement guidelines for audio-only telehealth services. Given the lack of certainty surrounding federal policies in this area, your Committee believes that attempting to conform state law to federal regulations may be premature at this point.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the provisions that would have codified updates to the State's laws on telehealth services to conform with federal Medicare regulations and required the Insurance Commissioner to report certain reimbursement information to the Legislature;
- (2) Extending the sunset date of Act 107, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, to December 31, 2026; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 557, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 557, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 674 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 1047

The purpose of this measure is to require Hawaii financial institutions and licensed mortgage servicers to pay interest on insurance proceeds held in escrow for the benefit of consumers and specify that a fee cannot be charged to the borrower in connection with the maintenance or disbursement of insurance proceeds received by the Hawaii financial institution or mortgage servicer.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Mortgage Bankers Association of Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Bankers Association and Hawaii Credit Union League.

Your Committee finds that, in the event of a natural disaster that damages a home, the insurance proceeds will generally be made to the mortgage lender (or servicer) and the borrower. This is due to the contractual provision within a mortgage where lenders require that they are named in the homeowner's policy and that they are a party to any insurance proceeds related to the structure. Since the lender has a financial interest in the property, this arrangement ensures that necessary repairs are made.

Your Committee further finds that, depending on the circumstances, lenders may also put the money in an escrow account and pay for the repairs as work is completed. However, lenders are not required to pay interest on these accounts if either the agreement or law requires it. This is the situation many residents find themselves after the 2023 Maui wildfires. While local banks have been offering interest on the insurance proceeds pending the rebuilding process, consumers with out-of-state mortgage servicers and banks have not been offered the same because existing law does not require insurance proceeds to be held in interest-bearing accounts. This measure will increase consumer protection in cases of damage or destruction by requiring all licensed mortgage servicers and Hawaii financial institutions to contact the consumer and provide the consumer with an option of putting the insurance proceeds in interest-bearing accounts.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the provisions with respect to Hawaii financial institutions only apply in the event of a state of emergency declared by the Governor;
- (2) Deleting language that specified that the escrow accounts maintained by Hawaii financial institutions and mortgage servicers generate interest at a rate that is no less than the national rate for money market accounts;
- (3) Deleting language that prohibited Hawaii financial institutions and mortgage servicers from charging a fee for the maintenance or disbursement of insurance proceeds; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1047, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1047, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 675 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 807

The purpose of this measure is to provide condominium associations with financing options by:

- (1) Establishing the Condominium Loan Program to provide low-cost financing, or refinance previously obtained loans, for maintenance or repair projects; and
- (2) Establishing the Condominium Loan Loss Reserves Program to incentivize private lenders into providing loans at competitive rates and terms.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority; Hawaii Bankers Association; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and one individual.

Your Committee finds that, due to issues in the global insurance industry and recent increases in catastrophic weather events around the world, there have been unprecedented insurance premium rate increases for condominium associations. Many of these condominium associations are also seeing the increased insurance premiums due to the aging buildings that make up the condominium projects and the associated repairs and maintenance issues, which are often significant. This measure provides two avenues for condominium associations to receive funding for much needed insurance and repairs.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarify that the financial institutions that may participate in the Condominium Loan Loss Reserves Program are community development financial institutions;
- (2) Amending the criteria for determining a condominium association's eligibility for the programs to be a condominium association that:
 - (A) Has received at least one letter from a financial institution declining its eligibility for a loan to address maintenance or insurance coverage issues; and
 - (B) Has obtained full replacement insurance coverage or intends to do so as a condition of any financing received; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 807, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 807, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 676 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 496

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish labeling requirements for māmaki tea by restricting the use of certain words on a consumer package unless one hundred percent of the tea or leaves were grown in the State; and
- (2) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; and Hawai'i Farmers Union.

Your Committee finds that māmaki is a shrub endemic to Hawaii and is a common host plant for caterpillars of the Kamehameha butterfly, the official state insect. Your Committee further finds that the māmaki tea industry is fairly new and would benefit from protections against deceptive or misleading labels. This measure establishes labeling requirements and provides resources to the Department of Agriculture to ensure that māmaki tea is provided with the same protections afforded to other valuable agricultural crops like coffee and macadamia nuts.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the position count from unspecified to one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) Measurement Standards Inspector V position; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 496, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 496, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 677 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 463

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the immediate sealing of court records for eviction proceedings if the final resolution does not result in a judgment for possession in favor of the landlord or the parties agree to seal the records;
- (2) Allow for the sealing of eviction records upon the motion of a residential tenant in certain circumstances; and
- (3) Prohibit discrimination in real property transactions based on the actual knowledge or belief that a person has a sealed eviction record.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Lāhainā Strong; Medical-Legal Partnership for Children in Hawai'i; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Hawai'i Workers Center; Maui Housing Hui; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Public First Law Center. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary and Hawai'i Association of REALTORS.

Your Committee finds that without stable housing, persons struggle to maintain employment or a child's education, and it may affect their health. Your Committee further finds that landlords use the existence of eviction proceedings against prospective tenants, regardless of the outcome of those proceedings, including when the tenant prevails or the landlord dismisses the action. This measure promotes stable housing by requiring or allowing the sealing of eviction records in certain circumstances and prohibiting discrimination against persons who have sealed eviction records.

Your Committee notes the suggestion raised in testimony by the Public First Law Center that, rather than sealing eviction court records, an eviction case should instead be disassociated from the name of the tenant, which would continue to allow the public to freely access public court records while still protecting tenants who may have had baseless complaints filed against them. However, your Committee notes that additional testimony will be needed to determine if disassociating eviction cases from a tenant's name would be practical or feasible.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the courts to make a good faith and diligent effort to seal all court records within a reasonable time, rather than immediately; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 463, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 463, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Kong). Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, none.

SCRep. 678 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 914

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Public Utilities Commission to establish an automatic adjustment mechanism, including a water carrier inflation cost index automatic adjustment mechanism; and
- (2) Authorize the Public Utilities Commission to waive or exempt a water carrier from the Hawaii Water Carrier Act.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Matson Navigation Company, Inc.; and Hawai'i Harbors Users Group. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of Agriculture; and Public Utilities Commission.

Your Committee finds that water carriers engage in the transportation of persons or property by water. These carriers play a crucial role in sustaining each island's economy and community by, among other things, moving essential goods between islands.

Your Committee further finds that water carriers are not immune from existing inflationary pressures. While cargo volumes for these carriers have stagnated, the costs of operation have increased, leading to an ongoing struggle to establish and maintain financial sustainability. This is further exacerbated by the regulatory lag to address increasing costs. This measure authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to develop a mechanism that will flexibly address the increasing costs of these much-needed carriers.

Your Committee notes that there currently is a docket regarding an automatic adjustment mechanism under consideration by the Public Utilities Commission and that this measure may not be necessary.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Authorizing, rather than requiring, the Public Utilities Commission to establish automatic adjustment mechanisms;
- (2) Removing the reference to the Gross Domestic Product Price Index and inserting an unspecified index; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider alternative indexes other than the national Gross Domestic Product Price Index to tie to the automatic adjustment mechanism provided for in this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 914, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 914, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 679 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 1316

The purpose of this measure is to require the registration and numbering of rental vessels before they are provided or offered to the public for transiting the navigable waters of a state park.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Bring Me A Kayak.

Your Committee finds that the commercial operation of rental kayaks and stand-up paddleboards allow visitors to experience the state parks in a unique manner by enjoying the scenic views and nature. However, the increased commercial activity often leads to extensive disruptions in state parks caused by human activity, including litter and overcrowding. While permitted vendors ensure that the use of rental kayaks and stand-up paddleboards are operated safely and in accordance with the Department of Land and Natural Resources' rules, this measure provides another mechanism for the Department to adequately protect the natural resources of state parks.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the fees for the initial registration, annual renewal registration, and ancillary decals for rental vessels shall be deposited in the State Parks Special Fund; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1316, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1316, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, none.

SCRep. 680 Culture & Arts on H.B. No. 547

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish and appropriate funds into a Spay and Neuter Special Fund to reduce pet overpopulation and the reproduction of free-roaming cats; and
- (2) Establish various revenue and fundraising sources for the Spay and Neuter Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaiian Humane Society; Neighborhood Cats; Animal Interfaith Alliance in Britain; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Humane Society of the United States; Cat Friends; Big Island Invasive Species Committee; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Department of the Attorney General; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Budget and Finance; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the spaying and neutering of free-roaming animals is a popular method used to reduce the free-roaming animal population. Your Committee recognizes that this measure provides a useful strategy to preserve the State's unique biodiversity and protect its wildlife.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider which department would be the most appropriate to administer the Spay and Neuter Special Fund and lead the efforts of the Advisory Committee in establishing eligibility criteria and procedures for disbursements from the special fund.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 547, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 547, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 681 Culture & Arts on H.B. No. 1378

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Performing Arts Grants Program, under the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts' existing grant program, to support performing arts in the State;
- (2) Clarify the scope of responsibilities of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts to include the coordination, planning, promotion, marketing, and execution of performing arts events; and
- (3) Appropriate funds to provide grants under the Performing Arts Grants Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts; Maui Pops Orchestra Inc; IONA Contemporary Dance Theatre; Castle Performing Arts Learning Center; Prince Dance Company; Hawaii Theatre Center; Hawai'i Arts Alliance; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committee finds that the mission of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts is to promote, perpetuate, preserve, and encourage culture and the arts as central to the quality of life and people of the State. One of the Foundation's strategic priorities includes increasing public accessibility to arts and culture. Your Committee also finds that the performing arts represent various mediums that express creativity through singing, dancing, theatre, and musical performances. Your Committee believes that this measure enables the performing arts to continue to provide the State's residents and visitors with creative, educational, and aesthetic performances that tell meaningful stories and provide engaging experiences.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Establishing a Performing Arts Grants Special Fund and specifying its purpose;
- (2) Inserting grant standards as recommended by the Department of the Attorney General to comply with the requirements for awarding grants of public money in article VII, section 4, of the Hawaii State Constitution;
- (3) Removing language as it relates to the Works of Art Special Fund;
- (4) Changing the appropriations to an unspecified amount;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1378, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1378, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 682 Culture & Arts on H.B. No. 925

The purpose of this measure is to require the Comptroller to establish a separate Arts Fees Account within the Works of Art Special Fund to be funded by one percent of all ticket sales from concerts held at state venues.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Foundation of Culture and Arts. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that it is important to expand access to arts and culture across the State to help bring joy and inspiration to all people. Your Committee finds that the performing arts have long been underfunded and often rely on community efforts for support. Your Committee believes that this measure can support performing arts through a mechanism similar to the existing percent-for-art law but not based on a percentage of bond-financed appropriations for capital improvement projects.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting legislative findings to clarify that the intent of this measure is to expand access to vital arts and culture opportunities across the State;
- (2) Establishing a separate Performing Arts Special Fund, rather than the Arts Fees Account within the Works of Art Special Fund, for collections of the one percent of ticket sales from concerts held at state venues, and adding a definition for the term "concerts";
- (3) Authorizing the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts to expend monies from the Performing Arts Special Fund for the coordination, planning, promotion, marketing, and execution of performing arts events and defining the term "performing arts"; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 925, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 925, H.D. 2, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 683 Human Services & Homelessness on H.B. No. 320

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow qualified adults, including adults with a disability, mentally ill adults, and adults sixty-five years of age or older, to enter into supported decision-making agreements with one or members of a supportive community; and
- (2) Specify the terms of a supported decision-making agreement, including access to personal information and agreement requirements.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Disability and Communication Access Board; Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; Full Life; and five individuals. Your

Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Human Services; Department of the Attorney General; and Guardianship Conservatorship Working Group.

Your Committee finds that many individuals with disabilities, mental illness, or aging-related challenges require support in decision-making, yet existing legal frameworks often place them under restrictive guardianship, stripping them of autonomy and basic rights. This measure addresses these concerns by allowing qualified adults to enter into supported decision-making agreements, enabling them to make informed choices with the guidance of trusted supporters and ensuring that individuals can direct their own lives with dignity and self-determination.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Defining "personal information";
- (2) Disqualifying certain persons from entering into a supported decision-making agreement as a member of a supportive community;
- (3) Requiring express written consent from the qualified adult for certain medical information and education records protected under federal privacy laws;
- (4) Clarifying the types of information a member of the supportive community must keep confidential after assisting a qualified adult to access, collect, or obtain the information;
- (5) Clarifying the minimum requirements of a supported decision-making agreement;
- (6) Clarifying provisions related to the automatic termination of a supported decision-making agreement;
- (7) Specifying that a supported decision-making agreement, or the execution of a supported decision-making agreement, shall not be used as evidence of incapacity or incompetency of a qualified adult and shall not preclude an adult with a functional impairment from acting independently of the agreement;
- (8) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (9) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 320, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 320, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 684 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1002

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Extend the term of the Oversight Coordinator of the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission, beginning July 1, 2025; and
- (2) Clarify that the Oversight Coordinator has the general authority to inspect agencies and correctional facilities without notice.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission; Community Alliance on Prisons; American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and one individual.

Your Committee finds that extending the term of the Oversight Coordinator will better enable the Oversight Coordinator to make significant progress and see initiatives through to completion. Your Committee further finds that providing the Oversight Coordinator with access to information and correctional facilities is essential for ensuring transparency, accountability, and the protection of staff and individuals in custody.

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. 1002, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 685 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1358

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for the hiring of necessary staff and the purchase of equipment and professional services on behalf of the Public Land Trust Working Group.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Pilina Center for Wellbeing; Ali'i Pauahi Hawaiian Civic Club; ACLU Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Center for Hawaii Sovereignty Studies and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Public Lands Trust Working Group (Working Group) was established pursuant to Act 226, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, to account for all ceded lands in the public land trust inventory and income and proceeds from the public land trust to determine the pro rata share of income and proceeds from the Public Land Trust due annually to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. Your Committee further finds that the Working Group has determined that information in the Public Land Trust Information System (PLTIS) developed and maintained by the Department of Land and Natural Resources is based in part on self-reporting of revenues by state agencies and counties. Your Committee notes that there has not been a third-party independent audit, review, or evaluation of the thoroughness or accuracy of the PLTIS, including existing reporting practices and determinations of what lands should be included or excluded from the PLTIS database. This measure will appropriate funds for a third-party review of the PLTIS to support the Working Group in accurately determining the pro rata share of income and proceeds due to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,000,000.

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. 1358, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1358, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 686 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 990

The purpose of this measure is to satisfy several claims against the State, its officers, or its employees.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Department of the Attorney General; and Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that the Department of the Attorney General testified that it has advised its client agencies on how to avoid claims such as those included in this measure.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Appropriating:
 - (A) \$111,733.08 in general funds for a claim by Mark Lloyd;
 - (B) \$152,665.39 in general funds for a claim by Maui Kupono Builders, LLC;
 - (C) \$28,500 in general funds for a settlement in the case of Billy Peter v. Anne E. Lopez;
 - (D) \$275,000 in general funds for a settlement in the case of James Sean Shields v. State of Hawaii;
 - (E) \$330,000 in general funds for a settlement in the case of B.R., M.A., and F.R. v. State of Hawaii;
 - (F) \$100,000 in general funds for a settlement in the case of Child Evangelism Fellowship of Hawaii, Inc. v. Hawaii State Department of Education;
 - (G) \$1,750,000 in general funds for a settlement in the case of Brenda Persinger, Individually and as a Personal Representative of the Estate of Michael Ambrose, Deceased v. State of Hawaii, Department of Education;
 - (H) \$75,000 in general funds for a settlement in the case of Jake Ferreira v. State of Hawaii, Department of Education; and
 - (I) \$750,000 in general funds for a settlement in the case of Cresencia Espejo v. State of Hawaii;
- (2) Inserting expenditure ceiling language;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 990, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 990, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 687 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 677

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to:

- (1) In collaboration with various agencies and upon request of the inmates, assist inmates in obtaining their civil identification card, birth certificate, social security card, and other relevant identification necessary for successful reentry into society, as soon as practicable, but no later than one year before the inmate's parole or release date; and
- (2) Initiate the process of obtaining identifying documents for inmates released to work furlough, extended furlough, or community placement programs, by providing the forms necessary for the inmate to obtain civil identification cards and other identifying documents to the inmate as soon as practicable, but no later than ninety days before the inmate's release date.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission; Waikiki Health; Community Alliance on Prisons; Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation has made progress in collaborating with agencies, including the counties and Social Security Administration, and facilitating access to identification documents. However, significant gaps remain in informing individuals in custody about available assistance, prioritizing support for those within one year of release, adhering to prescribed timelines, and providing forms in the individual's primary language. This measure will improve the timeliness in which individuals in custody are informed of and receive departmental assistance in obtaining applicable identification documents.

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. 677, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 688 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1001

The purpose of this measure is to establish, and appropriate funds to, the Maui Wildfires Settlement Trust Fund to pay eligible claims pursuant to the Maui wildfires settlement agreements.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and one member of the Maui County Council. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that this measure establishes the Maui Wildfires Settlement Trust Fund to provide timely and fair compensation to victims of the devastating Maui wildfires of August 8, 2023. The Trust Fund is designed to settle claims related to property damage, personal injury, emotional distress, and economic loss, with contributions from the State and other entities like Maui County and utility companies. The goal is to offer an alternative to lengthy litigation, expedite compensation, and ease the burden on the judicial system, while fostering community recovery. The State will contribute \$807,500,000 for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 to the Trust Fund, which will be managed by the Attorney General, with regular legislative oversight to ensure transparency and efficient use of the funds.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$400,000,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$407,500,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027.

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. 1001, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1001, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 689 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 648

The purpose of this measure is to establish a two-year pilot program in the Probate Court and Family Court of the First Circuit to fund certain guardianship- and conservatorship-related court resources in situations where the respondent does not have sufficient funds to pay for one or more of the resources and the court has deemed the resource or resources beneficial.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Executive Office on Aging; AARP Hawaii; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of the Public Guardian and State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Your Committee finds that many respondents in guardianship and conservatorship cases cannot afford necessary legal and evaluative services. This measure promotes enhanced equity and procedural fairness in the guardianship and conservatorship system by ensuring that vulnerable individuals, such as those with disabilities, have access to proper representation and assessments.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriations to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the following appropriation amounts:

- (1) \$100,000 for the provision of guardianship- and conservatorship-related court resources in the Probate Court of the First Circuit as part of the pilot program; and
- (2) \$100,000 for the provision of guardianship- and conservatorship-related court resources in the Family Court of the First Circuit as part of the pilot program.

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. 648, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 648, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 690 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1045

The purpose of this measure is to make emergency appropriations for fiscal year 2024-2025 to the Department of Accounting and General Services and the Judiciary for payroll and fringe benefits of affected Department of Law Enforcement personnel.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Department of Budget and Finance; and Department of Law Enforcement.

Your Committee finds that the Legislature received a letter from the Governor on February 10, 2025, recommending the immediate passage of this measure pursuant to article VII, section 9, of the Hawaii State Constitution. Your Committee further finds that this measure will provide the necessary funding for fringe benefits for sheriffs in the Department of Law Enforcement.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the following appropriation amounts:

- (1) \$2,489,509 for the interdepartmental transfer from the Department of Accounting and General Services to the Department of Law Enforcement; and
- (2) \$4,673,616 for the interdepartmental transfer from the Judiciary to the Department of Law Enforcement.

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. 1045, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1045, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 691 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1064

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Effectuate the recommendations of the "Phase 3" Forward-Looking Report by Fire Safety Research Institute on the August 2023 Maui wildfires and further clarify the role of the State Fire Marshal; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the operations of the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Defense; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Hawai'i Climate Advisory Team; Hawaii Insurers Council; Hawaiian Electric; Lāhainā Strong; Kamehameha Schools; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land Natural Resources and Hawai'i Wildfire Management Organization.

Your Committee finds that recent devastating wildfires in Hawaii, like those experienced in Maui, clearly demonstrate that wildfires are an escalating threat to the State. This measure would clarify the role of the State Fire Marshal and facilitate unity of effort with the State Fire Council, thereby increasing the readiness and resilience of the State against fire-related disasters.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have established the Office of the State Fire Marshal in the Department of Defense and instead temporarily establishing the Office in the Office of the Governor;
- (2) Deleting language that would have required the State Fire Council to appoint the State Fire Marshal and instead requiring the Governor to appoint the State Fire Marshal from a list of three names submitted by the State Fire Council;
- (3) Requiring the Office of the State Fire Marshal to oversee the development and maintenance of a comprehensive statewide wildfire hazard map;
- (4) Specifying how often the county fire chiefs must:
 - (A) Make compilations and statistical investigations of all fires occurring in their respective counties; and
 - (B) Supervise and make or cause to be made thorough inspection records of all property that might constitute a fire hazard within their respective county;
- (5) Requiring the county fire chiefs to transmit to the State Fire Marshal the records and statistical investigations of all fires occurring in their respective counties and inspection records of property that might constitute a fire hazard within their respective county;
- (6) Requiring the State Fire Marshal, instead of the county fire chiefs, to inspect all state facilities at least once a year;
- (7) Deleting language that would have transferred the State Fire Council from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to the Department of Defense;
- (8) Making the State Fire Marshal a member of the State Fire Council; and
- (9) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1064, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1064, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 692 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 992

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Revise registration, fee, reporting, and enforcement requirements for charitable fundraising platforms and platform charities that solicit funds from the public; and
- (2) Remove duplication of registration, fee, and reporting requirements for charitable fundraising platforms and platform charities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General. Your Committee received comments on this measure from GoFundMe.

Your Committee finds that this measure clarifies and updates Hawaii's law related to the solicitation of funds from the public by revising registration, reporting, fees, and other regulatory requirements for charitable fundraising platforms and platform charities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to January 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 992, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 992, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 2 (Garcia, Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 693 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 739

The purpose of this measure is to establish and fund the Kamaaina Homes Program as an investment in the future of Hawaii and keep local working families in the State by securing a dedicated housing supply specifically for locals.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Kaua'i County Housing Agency; AARP Hawai'i; Hawai'i YIMBY; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Housing Hawai'i's Future; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement; Holomua Collaborative; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Title Guaranty of Hawai'i; HPM Building Supply; Hawai'i Gas; Mana Up; Tori Richard, Ltd.; aio Family of Companies; Sunshine Topping; Hawai'i State Youth Commission; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Aloha United Way and the ALICE Initiative; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Techmana LLC; Kobayashi Group; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; and Hawai'i Association of REALTORS.

Your Committee finds that the average price of a home in the State has now surpassed \$800,000. Since 1984, existing home prices have increased by one hundred fifty-five percent, while the median household income has risen only twenty-four percent.

Your Committee further finds that voluntary deed restrictions have proven effective in preventing speculative real estate practices that drive up housing costs. This measure strengthens the stability of a community by allowing residents to place voluntary deed restrictions to provide secure housing for residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending its purpose section;
- (2) Clarifying the eligible occupants of a property with a deed restriction in place under the Kamaaina Homes Program;
- (3) Clarifying available remedies if a property with a deed restriction is sold and has been occupied in a noncompliant manner;
- (4) Specifying that any financial remedy owed or collected is deposited into the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund;
- (5) Clarifying the exemption from conveyance taxes; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 739, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 739, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 694 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1007

The purpose of this measure is to streamline transit-oriented development infrastructure improvements by making Chapter 206E, Part X, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to transient-oriented development infrastructure improvements, a program under the Hawaii Community Development Authority, rather than districts to be overseen by a board.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Hawai'i Community Development Authority; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that, as transit-oriented development infrastructure improvement districts have not been constituted since its establishment pursuant to Act 184, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, repealing the transit-oriented infrastructure improvement districts and boards and reconstituting them as a program under the Hawaii Community Development Authority will allow for a more streamlined transit-oriented development infrastructure improvements.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Authorizing, rather than requiring, program areas to include all parcels of land of which any portion is located within certain transit-oriented development zones or transit stations;
- (2) Clarifying that the Hawaii Community Development Authority may establish and administer transit-oriented development infrastructure improvement program areas;
- (3) Deleting language that would have allowed the Hawaii Community Development Authority to acquire property already devoted to a public use; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1007, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1007, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 695 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1174

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow for the interest earned on payments under protest in the litigated claims fund to be paid in nontaxation cases if the claimant prevails; and
- (2) Establish a procedure for the disposition of monies and refiling of actions when a payment under protest suit is filed prematurely.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the Hawaii Supreme Court ruled that if a taxpayer sues for a refund of payment under protest before an agency has decided whether the money is owed, the appeal should be dismissed. This may result in the agency keeping payments under protest without the opportunity for judicial review on the issue. This measure introduces procedural safeguards to ensure the courts can address the merits of such disputes.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1174, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1174, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 696 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1183

The purpose of this measure is to include certain law enforcement administrators and employees of the Department of Law Enforcement as class A members of the pension and retirement systems and provides guidance for the computation of retirement benefits similar to police officers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development and Department of Law Enforcement. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; and Employees' Retirement System.

Your Committee finds that this measure acknowledges the critical role of Department of Law Enforcement personnel by providing them with retirement benefits commensurate with their law enforcement duties and responsibilities, similar to those currently afforded to county police officers. This measure establishes appropriate contribution rates and provides clear guidance for the computation of retirement benefits for Department of Law Enforcement administrators and employees.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting a preamble to note the purposes of the measure, which are notwithstanding the moratorium on benefit enhancements;
- (2) Deleting language that would have amended the definition of "law enforcement investigations staff investigators";
- (3) Deleting the term "department of law enforcement investigators" throughout the measure and replacing it with the defined term "law enforcement investigations staff investigators", where appropriate;
- (4) Amending the percentage of compensation that the Director of Law Enforcement, deputy directors of the Department of Law Enforcement, the Sheriff, and Sheriff Division investigators must contribute to the annuity savings fund;
- (5) Clarifying the language regarding years of credited service for the Director of Law Enforcement, deputy directors of the Department of Law Enforcement, the Sheriff, and Sheriff Division investigators as it relates to the allowance on service retirement;
- (6) Specifically establishing the employer contributions for normal cost and accrued liability for the Director of Law Enforcement, deputy directors of the Department of Law Enforcement, law enforcement investigations staff investigators, the Sheriff, and Sheriff Division investigators; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1183, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1183, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 697 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 664

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Office of Gun Violence Prevention to conduct community outreach on gun violence prevention, develop and administer a Gun Violence Prevention Grant Program, and develop and administer a gun violence resource bank; and
- (2) Establish the Gun Violence Prevention Special Fund and appropriate funds into and out of the special fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence; Giffords; COFACAN; Everytown for Gun Safety; Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America Hawai'i Chapter; Students Demand Action for Gun Sense in America; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from nine individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Budget and Finance; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that creating a specific office for gun violence prevention will allow the State to develop targeted, strategic initiatives and policies that are focused solely on reducing gun violence.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Establishing standards for the distribution of funds as grants under the Gun Violence Prevention Grant Program;
- (2) Specifying that funds in the Gun Violence Prevention Special Fund shall be used for the awarding of grants to organizations to conduct community-based gun violence intervention initiatives;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,044,926 for appropriate staffing and to operate the Office of Gun Violence Prevention.

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. 664, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 664, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 2 (Garcia, Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 698 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 958

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require all bicycles equipped with motors to be operated only with all wheels on the ground at all times, with certain exceptions;
- (2) Prohibit certain actions while operating a bicycle equipped with a motor;
- (3) Prohibit the operation of high-speed electric devices in certain locations;
- (4) Require manufacturers and distributors to apply a label to electric bicycles;
- (5) Require distributors to place a sign at or near the point of sale regarding electric bicycles;
- (6) Define "electric bicycle" in place of "low-speed electric bicycle";
- (7) Define "electric micro mobility device" and requires the same regulations as electric foot scooters to apply to electric micro mobility devices;
- (8) Prohibit a person under the age of fifteen from operating a class 3 bicycle;
- (9) Prohibit a person from riding a class 3 electric bicycle on a sidewalk;
- (10) Authorize a person to ride a class 1 or class 2 electric bicycle on a sidewalk at a speed not exceeding ten miles per hour;

- (11) Prohibit a person from operating a bicycle or electric foot scooter under the age of eighteen without a helmet;
- (12) Repeal the requirement that moped drivers use bicycle lanes; and
- (13) Substitute the word "motor drive cycle" with the word "motor scooter".

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Department of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu; 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 this measure aims to enhance safety by clarifying electric bicycle definitions, setting age restrictions, regulating sidewalk use, and requiring helmet use for minors.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that no person under the age of sixteen shall operate a class 3 electric bicycle; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 958, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 958, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 699 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 228

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the counties to adopt rules for the use of electronic license plates;
- (2) Prohibit the use of license plate flipping devices; and
- (3) Prohibit intentionally obscuring a license plate with a cover or shield.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and one individual.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Customer Services of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that the prohibitions on license plate flipping devices and intentionally obscuring a license plate through the use of a cover or shield will facilitate highway safety enforcement efforts, including automated enforcement efforts such as the red-light safety program and speed safety cameras.

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. 228, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 700 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 604

The purpose of this measure is to increase transient accommodations tax rates by one percent, beginning on January 1, 2026, and deposit the increased revenues into the Hawaiian Home General Loan Fund established under the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920, as amended.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Kohala Coast Resort Association; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Hawai'i Tourism Authority; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that this measure provides an opportunity and means by which the State can fulfill its trust obligations under the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1929, as amended, and the Hawaii State Constitution by providing another source of funding to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to reduce its extensive applicant waiting list.

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. 604, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 701 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 508

The purpose of this measure is to amend Act 67, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, to:

- (1) Appropriate funds for the Illegal Fireworks Task Force for fiscal year 2025-2026 and 2026-2027; and
- (2) Extend the sunset date to June 30, 2030.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Department of Law Enforcement; Honolulu Police Department; Hawaiian Humane Society; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Libertarian Party of Hawaii and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that the results of the Illegal Fireworks Task Force over the past two years demonstrate the need for sustained funding and administrative support.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the appropriation language;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 508, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 508, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 702 Transportation on H.B. No. 1163

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of a limited-term non-domiciled commercial learner's permit and limited-term commercial driver's license for applicants who are unable to provide proof of citizenship or lawful permanent residency status.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that in 2024, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration notified the State that it was not compliant with licensing requirements by issuing full-term commercial learner's permits and commercial driver's licenses to applicants who are citizens of the Freely Associated States. This measure allows the State to comply with Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration licensing requirements as well as allow other foreign citizens who are unable to provide proof of citizenship or lawful permanent residency the opportunity to obtain a limited-term commercial learner's permit and commercial driver's license in Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1163, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1163, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Evslin, Kitagawa).

SCRep. 703 Transportation on H.B. No. 1166

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds out of the State Highway Fund for deposit into and expend out of the Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Department of Law Enforcement; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program was established to improve the enforcement of speeding laws and reduce speed-related motor vehicle fatalities and injuries.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriations to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1166, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1166, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Evslin, Kitagawa).

SCRep. 704 Transportation on H.B. No. 1231

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the State to prioritize the installation of photo red light imaging detector systems in school zones if the State establishes a photo red light imaging detector system; and
- (2) Require proceeds of fines collected for disregarding a steady red signal pursuant to a photo red light imaging detector system installed in a school zone to be deposited into the Safe Routes to School Program Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Hawai'i Bicycling League; Ulupono Initiative; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary and one individual.

Your Committee finds that by prioritizing the installation of these photo red light imaging detector systems in school zones and dedicating the resulting revenue to student safety initiatives, this measure strengthens efforts to protect children traveling to and from school.

Your Committee notes that a special fund is required under existing law to be self-sustaining and not meant to generate revenue. Your Committee will continue to work with pertinent stakeholders regarding this issue as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that an unspecified percentage of fines collected under this measure may be deposited into the Safe Routes to School Program Special Fund and inserting an unspecified maximum amount that may be deposited in the Special Fund each year;
- (2) Authorizing, rather than requiring, priority to be given to installing photo red light imaging detector systems in school zones;
- (3) Requiring the Department of Transportation to consult with the Department of Education in determining which school zones to install a photo red light imaging detector system;

- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1231, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1231, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Evslin, Kitagawa).

SCRep. 705 Transportation on H.B. No. 334

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Department of Law Enforcement to establish traffic cameras and issue citations by mail for certain violations of traffic-related laws.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Policing Project; ACLU of Hawai'i; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary.

Your Committee finds that traffic violations continue to pose significant safety risks across the State and the use of traffic cameras has proven effective in other jurisdictions for improving compliance with traffic laws and reducing collisions. However, your Committee notes that there are existing programs that already accomplish the intent of this measure.

Your Committee acknowledges the critical importance of safeguarding state and county property utilized in the regulation and enforcement of traffic safety laws due to the vital role in maintaining public safety and ensuring the effective functioning of traffic management systems.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have authorized the Department of Law Enforcement to establish and implement any traffic camera, issue traffic citations, and provide motorists with educational and informational materials;
- (2) Amending the definition of "traffic camera" to include any camera owned and operated by a state or county agency;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 334, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 334, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Evslin, Kitagawa).

SCRep. 706 Transportation on H.B. No. 235

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Transportation to expand the use of photo red light imaging detector systems and automated speed enforcement systems to locations on the North Shore of Oahu.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Department of Law Enforcement; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary.

Your Committee finds that evidence from the use of photo red light imaging detector systems has shown a reduction in collisions and that automated speed enforcement systems are expected to yield similar safety benefits. This measure expands the utilization of these traffic safety systems to the North Shore of Oahu, where residents and visitors are impacted by speeding and red-light violations.

Your Committee notes the concerns raised in written testimony by the Judiciary that the expansion of the Photo Red Light Imaging Detector System Program and Automated Speed Enforcement System Program and its effect on existing workloads of the Judiciary. Your Committee will continue to work with the Judiciary to ensure that the expansion of these programs do not overload their capacity to efficiently process citations from these programs.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Department of Transportation to seek input from the Judiciary, in addition to the surrounding community, when selecting locations in the North Shore;
- (2) Specifying that this measure shall take effect one year after its approval to allow counties sufficient time to educate the public and adjust their systems accordingly;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an effective date of July 1, 2026.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 235, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 235, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Evslin, Kitagawa).

SCRep. 707 Transportation on H.B. No. 1471

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require and appropriate funds for the Department of Transportation to install traffic actuated signals, including leading pedestrian interval and accessible pedestrian signals and detectors; and

(2) Impose an additional fee of \$5 for a certificate of registration for a motor vehicle, to be deposited into the Safe Routes to School Program Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one member of the Kaua'i County Council; People for Active Transportation Hawaii; Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Hawai'i Bicycling League; Ulupono Initiative; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health and Department of Customer Services of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds a particularly high number of pedestrian injuries occur at signalized intersections, where conflicts with turning vehicles are common. This measure addresses these safety concerns by requiring the installation of leading pedestrian interval signals and accessible pedestrian signals and detectors, which have been shown to reduce pedestrian-vehicle collisions by increasing pedestrian visibility and reinforcing their right-of-way.

Your Committee further notes that the Department of Transportation is currently working on installing traffic actuated signals, including pedestrian interval and accessible pedestrian signals and detectors throughout the State and that this provision may not be necessary.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language related to the installation of traffic actuated signals, including leading pedestrian interval and accessible pedestrian signals and detectors, and the appropriation;
- (2) Changing the additional fee for a certificate of registration to an unspecified amount;
- (3) Deleting language that would have required the Department of Transportation to use the Safe Routes to School Program Special Fund to match any federal funds received for costs related to sidewalk and other infrastructure planning, development, and construction;
- (4) Specifying that this measure shall take effect one year after its approval to allow counties sufficient time to educate the public and adjust their systems accordingly;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an additional fee for a certificate of registration in an amount of \$5 and an effective date of July 1, 2026.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1471, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1471, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Evslin, Kitagawa).

SCRep. 708 Transportation on H.B. No. 1260

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require each county, in collaboration with the Department of Transportation, to establish a Summer Streets Pilot Program that temporarily closes vehicular traffic and repurposes roads for pedestrian and cyclist uses;
- (2) Require each county to submit an initial proposal to the Director of Transportation; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for the Summer Streets Pilot Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Department of Health; three members of the Hawai'i County Council; People for Active Transportation Hawaii; Hawai'i Bicycling League; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Cycle On Hawaii; Kauai Path, Inc.; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition; Maui Bicycling League; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that enhancing public spaces through innovative urban planning initiatives can significantly contribute to the health, sustainability, and cohesion of communities across Hawaii. This measure seeks to temporarily repurpose streets for pedestrian and cyclist use, outdoor activities, and cultural engagement for more vibrant, accessible, and sustainable public spaces in Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the reporting requirements of the Department of Transportation;
- (2) Defining "county" as a county of the State with a population of two hundred fifty thousand or less, except the County of Kalawao;
- (3) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (4) Inserting a sunset date of June 30, 2027;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1260, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1260, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, 3 (Cochran, Evslin, Kitagawa).

SCRep. 709 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1423

The purpose of this measure is to preserve the quiet recreational character of Hanalei Bay and protect the safety of residents and visitors who use the bay for water activities by restricting the size of vessels permitted to enter Hanalei Bay and requiring the Board of Land and Natural Resources to define the boundaries of Hanalei Bay by rule.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the County of Kaua'i; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Hanalei-Wainiha-Hā'ena Community Association; and Hanalei Watershed Hui. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that in recent years, several large vessels have moored in Hanalei Bay, greatly disrupting the quiet enjoyment of the waters by other residents and visitors and posing a health and safety risk to those partaking in ocean activities in Hanalei Bay. Your Committee further finds that although Hanalei Bay has designated recreational mooring available on a seasonal basis, it cannot safely accommodate large vessels. Your Committee believes that clearly prohibiting these large vessels from entering Hanalei Bay will protect the health and safety of all users of Hanalei Bay.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1423, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1423, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Poepoe, Woodson).

SCRep. 710 Water & Land on H.B. No. 743

The purpose of this measure is to require the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to develop a model that assesses the fiscal impact of land use development projects and regional infrastructure investments.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Housing Hawai'i's Future; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

Your Committee finds that fiscal impact modeling is a means of analyzing the long-term financial effects of land use decisions on government revenues and expenditures. Your Committee further finds that a fiscal impact assessment tool could be used by the counties or state agencies to evaluate whether development proposals or regional land use patterns positively contribute to the ongoing operational, maintenance, and replacement costs of public infrastructure, facilities, and services required to support development.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Authorizing a designee of the Director of Taxation to serve in place of the Director as a member of the steering committee to advise on the development of the model;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 743, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 743, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Poepoe, Woodson).

SCRep. 711 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1410

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Supportive Housing Special Fund;
- (2) Restructure the conveyance tax to a marginal rate system and adjust the tax for multifamily properties to reflect value on a per-unit basis;
- (3) Allocate a portion of conveyance tax revenues to the Supportive Housing Special Fund; and
- (4) Allocate a portion of conveyance tax revenues to the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund to fund infrastructure programs in county-designated transit-oriented development areas that meet minimum standards of transit-supportive density.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; The Nature Conservancy Hawai'i and Palmyra; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS and Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Taxation; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State's affordable housing crisis is exacerbated by inadequate infrastructure funding and a lack of stable financing, particularly for supportive housing. Your Committee further finds that encouraging transit-oriented development will help the State achieve its climate and energy goals by promoting the creation of sustainable, walkable communities that reduce reliance on cars, lower carbon emissions, and support local businesses. By restructuring the conveyance tax to a marginal rate system and increasing rates on high-value non-owner-occupied homes, as proposed by this measure, the State will be able to generate dedicated revenue for affordable and supportive housing projects that are vital to the community.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making agriculturally zoned lands with a residential dwelling unit for which the purchaser is ineligible for a county homeowner's real property tax exemption subject to the non-owner occupied conveyance tax rates; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1410, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1410, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Poepoe, Woodson).

SCRep. 712 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1087

The purpose of this measure is to allow the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to review the effect of any proposed project on historic properties or burial sites for lands under its jurisdiction, except in certain cases.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and Office of Hawaiian Affairs. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Historic Hawai'i Foundation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that historic preservation review is necessary to ensure the preservation of the State's historical and cultural heritage. Your Committee further finds that because of the high volume of requests and specialized knowledge needed to conduct a historic preservation review, the review process can often delay the completion of development projects. Allowing the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to assume responsibility for conducting historical preservation reviews on lands under its jurisdiction, as proposed by this measure, will streamline the historic preservation review process and ensure the timely review of projects proposed on lands under the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' jurisdiction.

Your Committee further finds that the island burial councils, responsible for overseeing the preservation of burial sites, are currently established within the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Your Committee believes the Office of Hawaiian Affairs would be a more appropriate agency to house and support the island burial councils.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to consult with the appropriate island burial council if the proposed project impacts a burial site or if a burial site is inadvertently discovered;
- (2) Transferring the administrative placement of the island burial councils from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1087, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1087, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Poepoe, Woodson).

SCRep. 713 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1318

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Remove from the definition of "public lands" lands set aside by the Governor to the counties for the purpose of affordable housing; and
- (2) Specify that lands set aside by the Governor to the counties for affordable housing require legislative approval for the sale or gift of the lands.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Kaua'i County Housing Agency; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Your Committee finds that the State is facing an ongoing housing crisis. Your Committee further finds that although the Governor set aside cooperatively identified state-owned residential parcels to the counties for the purpose of developing affordable housing, the counties have been unable to productively develop these parcels as existing statutes require the counties to seek the Board of Land and Natural Resources' approval for many actions relating to these lands, including leases, mortgages, easements, and rights of entry. Your Committee believes that removing these lands from the definition of "public lands" will reduce procedural burdens while also ensuring that valuable state lands may be productively utilized for the development of much needed affordable housing.

Your Committee has amended this measure by requiring lands set aside by the Governor to the counties for the development of affordable housing to be managed by the counties pursuant to the same public trust fiduciary duties and obligations of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1318, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1318, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Poepoe, Woodson).

SCRep. 714 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1323

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Agriculture, upon approval of the Board of Agriculture, rather than mutual agreement and approval of the Board of Agriculture and Board of Land and Natural Resources, to accept the transfer of and manage certain qualifying non-agricultural park lands.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Boteilho Hawaii Enterprises Inc.; Hawaii Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association; Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Larry Jeffs Farms, LLC; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; SC Ranch Company, Inc.; Nobriga Ranch; Hawaii Forest Industry Association; Kealia Ranch; Kapāpala Ranch; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that Act 90, Session Laws of Hawaii 2003 (Act 90), required the Department of Land and Natural Resources to transfer certain non-agricultural park lands from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture. However, the transfer of these lands has been stalled for more than two decades, resulting in uncertainty for the farmers and ranchers with long-term land leases for these lands. Your Committee further finds that Act 139, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, established a working group to address the delay in the transfer of lands required by Act 90. A key finding

of the working group was that lands under the Department of Land and Natural Resources that are used for the primary and substantial management objective of agricultural production should be transferred to the Department of Agriculture. This measure is intended to facilitate the transfer of these lands to the Department of Agriculture to ensure lands primarily used for farming and ranching are managed by the appropriate agency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1323, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Poepoe, Woodson).

SCRep. 715 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1409

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend the funding priorities of the Rental Housing Revolving Fund to incentivize development in areas that satisfy transit-supportive density requirements;
- (2) Allocate a minimum percentage of the Rental Housing Revolving Fund for certain mixed-income rental housing projects;
- (3) Require the Transit-Oriented Development Infrastructure Improvement District Board to consider the infrastructure needs of transit-supportive density requirements; and
- (4) Require the strategic plan developed by the Hawaii Interagency Council for transit-oriented development to delineate county-designated transit-oriented development areas for each county.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Holomua Collaborative; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Hawai'i YIMBY; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Housing Hawai'i's Future; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that transit-oriented development districts present a critical opportunity for efficient land use by promoting higher-density development near public transit infrastructure. Your Committee further finds that the underutilization of land in transit-oriented development districts is partially due to restrictive development standards. Your Committee believes that promoting the development of high-density developments, and particularly affordable housing, near transit hubs will ensure the economic and environmental benefits of the State's investments in county-designated transit-oriented development districts are fully utilized.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1409, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Poepoe, Woodson).

SCRep. 716 Water & Land on H.B. No. 966

The purpose of this measure is to establish statewide, uniform standards to promote agricultural tourism activities in the State by:

- (1) Creating agricultural tourism activity requirements that are applicable to all counties that have adopted an agricultural tourism ordinance;
- (2) Requiring agricultural tourism activities to be registered by the county planning department; and
- (3) Requiring agricultural tourism activities to coexist with agricultural activity on a farming operation and providing for the termination of agricultural tourism activities upon the cessation of the agricultural activity.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Agribusiness Development Corporation; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Heavenly Hawaiian Farms; Hawaii Food+ Policy; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Mahina Farms Maui; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Hawai'i Tourism Authority; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; and Kualoa Ranch.

Your Committee finds that the addition of agricultural tourism activities is rapidly becoming an essential part of the business model for many farms and ranches. Your Committee further finds that existing regulation for agricultural tourism activities across the State is disjointed, as each county currently has its own agricultural tourism activity permitting process, standards, procedures, and definitions. Your Committee believes that establishing uniform, statewide standards for agricultural tourism activities will allow Hawai'i's agricultural producers to tap into a critical revenue stream while still ensuring agricultural lands are used primarily for agricultural purposes.

Your Committee notes the concerns raised by the Department of Agriculture and Hawai'i Farm Bureau in their written testimony regarding the need to ensure there are no unintended consequences of the changes proposed by this measure and that there is sufficient oversight related to agricultural operations and land use. Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider whether this measure should revert back to the version as introduced.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 966, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Poepoe, Woodson).

SCRep. 717 Water & Land on H.B. No. 528

The purpose of this measure is to exempt state and county lands leased after July 1, 2025, for an initial period of no less than ninety-nine years from residential leasehold and residential leasehold condominium and cooperative housing corporation requirements.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Your Committee finds that exempting leased state and county lands with an initial lease period of at least ninety-nine years from existing residential leasehold requirements will enable the State to more effectively manage its lands.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 528, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Souza). Noes, 1 (Iwamoto). Excused, 2 (Poepoe, Woodson).

SCRep. 718 Water & Land on H.B. No. 1359

The purpose of this measure is to address flooding in residential areas by establishing a grant program to improve drainage systems, support mitigation measures, and provide resources for local communities and homeowners.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that assisting homeowners with the cost of maintaining drainageways on their private lands will reduce the likelihood of devastating flood damage to homes and communities after severe weather events.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1359, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1359, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Shimizu, Souza). Noes, 1 (Iwamoto). Excused, 2 (Poepoe, Woodson).

SCRep. 719 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1449

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Department of Agriculture to adopt rules and establish administrative penalties to enforce the Plant Care Component Program; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the Plant Care Component Program and certain positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Invasive Species Council; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and Carol Kwan Consulting LLC.

Your Committee finds that it is critically important to prevent destructive invasive species from entering the State. Your Committee further finds that Act 197, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024 (Act 197), took a critical step in the more stringent regulation of plant components. This measure adds critical support to Act 197 by authorizing penalties for violations related to the plant care components law and establishing positions.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Department of Agriculture shall adopt, amend, and repeal rules concerning plant care components; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$471,168 for:

- (1) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent civil service plant quarantine inspector IV position; and
- (2) Seven full-time equivalent (7.0 FTE) permanent civil service plant quarantine inspector III positions.

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. 1449, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1449, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 720 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 498

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Hawaii Agricultural Crimes Council (Council);
- (2) Require the Department of Agriculture to collaborate with and support the Council;
- (3) Establish the Agricultural Enforcement Special Fund; and
- (4) Provide dedicated funding for the Council's establishment and continued operations.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and Hawaii Food+ Policy. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that agricultural crime is a persistent and growing problem for agricultural communities. By creating the Hawaii Agricultural Crimes Council and expanding the role of the Department of Agriculture, this measure fosters collaboration, strengthens enforcement, and enhances the safety and security of Hawaii's farmers and ranchers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Exempting the appointment of the Executive Director of the Hawaii Agricultural Crimes Council from the provisions of chapter 89, Hawaii Revised Statutes, which relates to collective bargaining in public employment, rather than chapter 84, Hawaii Revised Statutes, which relates to standards of conduct;
- (2) Allowing investigators appointed and commissioned by the Council to carry firearms;
- (3) Specifying the duties and responsibilities of investigators appointed by the Council;

- (4) Requiring every state and county officer charged with the enforcement of laws and ordinances to assist in the enforcement of title 11, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 498, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 498, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 721 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1307

The purpose of this measure is to provide follow-up funding for the next steps in the investigation, exploration, and identification of geothermal resources on Hawaiian home lands.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Ulupono Initiative; Sustainable Energy Hawai'i; Hawaiian Electric; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Malu 'Aina; Chamber of Sustainable Commerce; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that Act 205, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022 (Act 205), provided start-up funding for the investigation, exploration, and identification of geothermal resources on Hawaiian home lands. This measure would continue the progress made by Act 205 by appropriating funds for geophysical data and hiring consultants to assist the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to navigate the intricacies of geothermal development.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1307, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1307, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Perruso, Shimizu). Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 722 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 307

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of special number plates to recognize restoration and preservation efforts on Kaho'olawe Island by the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana, Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission, and other community members.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; The Spoehr Foundation; Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that this measure will recognize the importance of Kaho'olawe Island and the Island's history through special number plates. Your Committee further finds that the funds raised for the provision of these special number plates will support the continuing efforts of restoration and preservation of Kaho'olawe Island.

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. 307, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garcia).

SCRep. 723 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 501

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Agricultural Enforcement Program within the Department of Law Enforcement;
- (2) Establish the Agricultural Enforcement Special Fund; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for and establish positions within the Agricultural Enforcement Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; Hawai'i Food+Policy; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and Hawai'i Farmers Union United. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that the establishment of the Agricultural Enforcement Program will increase protections for agricultural communities and builds upon the Department of Law Enforcement's collaboration with stakeholders in local agriculture to address agricultural crimes effectively. The proposed Agricultural Enforcement Program will be able to deploy specialized law enforcement positions across the State to prevent, investigate, and combat agricultural theft and related crimes, thereby preserving Hawaii's agricultural sector and ensuring the security of local food production infrastructure.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that Agricultural Enforcement Special Fund expenditures relating to:
 - (A) Maintenance functions shall be authorized and deemed necessary by the Director of Law Enforcement, rather than the Board of Agriculture; and
 - (B) Funding for consultants or contractual hires related to certain matters shall be determined by the Director of Law Enforcement, rather than the Board of Agriculture; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 501, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 501, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garcia).

SCRep. 724 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 560

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Judiciary for services contracted with community-based organizations that deliver essential services, streamline judicial processes, and support the Judiciary's capacity to effectively meet the needs of vulnerable households.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; Ku'ikahi Mediation; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; The Legal Clinic; Volunteer Legal Services Hawai'i; Parents and Children Together; Hawai'i True Cost Coalition; Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.; EPIC 'Ohana; Aloha United Way; Child & Family Service; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; The Institute for Human Services, Inc.; The Mediation Center of the Pacific, Inc.; Partners In Development Foundation; Responsive Caregivers of Hawaii; Samaritan Counseling Center Hawaii; YMCA of Honolulu; Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i; Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; YWCA; Community Alliance on Prisons; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that community-based organizations play a vital role in delivering essential services that strengthen access to justice, including legal aid, mediation, case management, and behavioral interventions. This measure will provide increased funding for the Judiciary for services contracted with community-based organizations that will assist low-income and vulnerable residents in navigating the legal process and avoiding long-term consequences that result without representation or assistance.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

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. 560, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 560, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Belatti, Cochran, Todd).

SCRep. 725 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 610

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a Cold Case Investigation Unit within the Department of the Attorney General to assist federal, state, county, and tribal law enforcement, and other cold case units, in investigating unsolved homicide, missing person, and other cases that have a nexus to the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State has hundreds of unsolved murders, including some cases more than forty years old. According to the nonprofit organization Project: Cold Case, the State reported 2,182 homicides between 1965 and 2023, and 728 of those cases remain unsolved. Your Committee further finds that, while each county in Hawaii has a cold case unit, additional resources and personnel may be needed to assist with the investigation of decades-old crimes. Coordination of efforts and sharing of information among federal, state, county, tribal, and other agencies is also valuable in resolving unsolved cases. Your Committee believes that the establishment of a Cold Case Investigation Unit will provide the necessary resources, personnel, and coordination between agencies to help bring closure to many of the State's unsolved crimes.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language which would have:
 - (A) Required the Cold Case Investigation Unit to prioritize unsolved cases involving an Indigenous victim; and
 - (B) Prohibited the Cold Case Investigation Unit from assisting with an active criminal investigation;
- (2) Adding a definition of "cold case";
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 610, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 610, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Belatti, Cochran).

SCRep. 726 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 438

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Due Process in Immigration Proceedings Program within the Judiciary to provide legal representation to individuals in immigration-related proceedings in immigration court.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Oahu Filipino Community Council; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; ACLU of Hawai'i; The Legal Clinic; William S. Richardson School of Law Refugee & Immigration Law Clinic Advisory Committee; Imua Alliance; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; UNITE HERE Local 5; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Free Citizens of Maunaloa; Hawaiian Islands Republican Women; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary.

Your Committee finds that many individuals in the State may be facing deportation or other immigration-related proceedings in the coming years in a complex and costly process. Often, these individuals do not have the resources, legal training, or language skills to properly respond in these proceedings. Your Committee further finds that the establishment of a Due Process in Immigration Proceedings program will provide immigrants who are residents of the State with the needed support to navigate the complex legal issues in immigration-related proceedings.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that entities contracted to implement the Due Process in Immigration Proceedings Program shall partner with entities capable of training and educating law students and legal practitioners, in addition to the University of Hawaii at Manoa William S. Richardson School of Law, to provide legal representation to individuals in immigration-related proceedings;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and

(3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 438, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 438, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 2 (Belatti, Cochran).

SCRep. 727 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1247

The purpose of this measure is to provide immediate judicial review of orders fixing minimum terms of imprisonment.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Judiciary and Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Paroling Authority.

Your Committee finds that the Judiciary raised several concerns regarding the provisions of the measure, as it amounted to an automatic review of all Hawaii Paroling Authority minimum term decisions. The Judiciary provided an alternative suggestion to alleviate its concerns and ensure the overall purpose of this measure, which is to confer the right to counsel for a judicial review of the minimum term proceedings.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have required a sentencing court to maintain records of criminal proceedings that lead to incarceration for ninety days after the issuance of a decision;
- (2) Deleting language that would have provided for the immediate judicial review of orders fixing minimum terms of imprisonment and instead inserting language that:
 - (A) Requires prisoners to continue to be represented by counsel in any petition challenging minimum term proceedings;
 - (B) Requires the Supreme Court to establish rules regarding the form and content of the petition challenging minimum term proceedings, the parties, and hearings on the motion, and the referral to the public defender where necessary; and
 - (C) Establishes grounds for challenging a minimum term order;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that the Judiciary has requested an effective date of June 30, 2026, to permit the Judiciary time to promulgate rules to effectuate the provisions of this measure.

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. 1247, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1247, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 3 (Belatti, Cochran, Todd).

SCRep. 728 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1088

The purpose of this measure is to exempt housing developed by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands from school impact fees.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and School Facilities Authority. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that this measure will allow more affordable housing for native Hawaiian beneficiaries to be developed by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands without facing additional fees that come from school impact fees.

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. 1088, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 729 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1086

The purpose of this measure is to exempt any development of homestead lots or housing for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands from general excise and use taxes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that existing law allows affordable housing projects undertaken by the counties and the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to be exempt from the general excise and use taxes. However, there is no similar exemption for housing built by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. This measure establishes an exemption from the general excise and use taxes for development of homestead lots by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

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. 1086, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 730 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 393

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds as a grant-in-aid to the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu for the Career Criminal Prosecution Unit.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Career Criminal Prosecution Unit was created because a disproportionate amount of serious crimes are committed against the public by a relatively small number of individuals who are multiple and repeat felony offenders. This measure will help support the prosecution of these career criminals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$747,267 for fiscal year 2025-2026.

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. 393, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 393, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Belatti, Cochran).

SCRep. 731 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1408

The purpose of this measure is to allow the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to utilize the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund as collateral when the Department acts as an eligible borrower for a loan agreement under section 184A of the federal Housing and Community Development Act of 1992, as amended.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Your Committee finds that Congress established the Section 184A Native Hawaiian Housing Loan Guarantee Program in 2000 in order to provide access to sources of private financing on Hawaiian home lands. Under that program, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is an eligible borrower and can use these funds to develop rental housing or to build single-family homes. Once the housing is developed, the native Hawaiian who is eligible to purchase the home can either assume the Section 184A loan or secure other financing to purchase the home.

Your Committee further finds, however, that the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920, limits what can be utilized as collateral to secure loans made by government agencies or private lending institutions to the Department. This measure authorizes the use of the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund to allow the Department to secure private funding to develop rental housing or build single-family homes.

Your Committee notes that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands should provide your Committee on Finance with a legal opinion on if the phrase "notwithstanding the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920, as amended", should be retained in this measure.

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. 1408, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 732 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 606

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Extend the sunset date of the Act 279 Special Fund to June 30, 2028;
- (2) Deposit funds into the Act 279 Special Fund and appropriate funds out of the Special Fund for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to address its waitlist; and
- (3) Require the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to submit a strategic plan to the Legislature detailing the anticipated uses of the funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Malu 'Aina; Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement; Kupa'a Lāhui Alliance; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that Act 279, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022 (Act 279), appropriated \$600,000,000 to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to provide a multi-pronged approach to reducing its applicant waitlist. Your Committee further finds that Act 125, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024 (Act 125), moved the unexpended and unencumbered funds to a special fund so that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands could continue the progress made by Act 279. Act 125 is set to sunset on June 30, 2026. This measure extends the sunset date of the Act 279 Special Fund to allow for the Department to take full use of the monies appropriated by Act 279.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an effective date of January 1, 2026.

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. 606, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 733 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 175

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require owners or lessees of real property to maintain their property and establish penalties for failure to do so;

- (2) Require the Department of Agriculture to establish rules for the enforcement and collection of fines for violations relating to the proliferation of invasive species; and
- (3) Require the Office of the State Fire Marshal to adopt rules for the enforcement and collection of fines for violations relating to the prevention of wildfires and other public safety hazards.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Lāhainā Strong; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Building Owners and Managers Association – Hawai‘i and one individual.

Your Committee finds that approximately one-quarter of land in the State is covered in flammable invasive grasses and shrubs, which puts the State at higher risk of wildfire than sixteen western states. Your Committee further finds that approximately 94.4 percent of residences in the State are vulnerable to wildfires because their communities are within or adjacent to invasive or flammable grasses. This measure addresses these concerns by requiring land owners to maintain their property or be subject to penalties.

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. 175, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 734 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 394

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds as a grant-in-aid to the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu for the Victim Witness Assistance Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that the funding provided by this measure will help guide victims, witnesses, and surviving family members through the criminal justice system.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$736,785 for fiscal year 2025-2026.

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. 394, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 394, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Belatti, Cochran).

SCRep. 735 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 806

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Department of Law Enforcement to conduct sting operations on Oahu to enforce fireworks ordinances or laws.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Honolulu Police Department; Kuli‘ou‘ou-Kalani Iki Neighborhood Board; Pearl City Neighborhood Board No. 21; and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that targeted sting operations on Oahu will enhance the Department of Law Enforcement's ability to enforce fireworks laws and further protect local communities. However, the sting operations are resource-intensive and require specialized personnel, equipment, and coordinated efforts. Your Committee believes that providing funds to conduct sting operations will support the Department of Law Enforcement's enforcement capabilities and serve as a deterrent to individuals who violate fireworks laws.

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. 806, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Belatti, Cochran).

SCRep. 736 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 329

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify that the School Facilities Authority is responsible for certain development, planning, and construction projects for prekindergarten, preschool, and child care facilities, as well as workforce housing;
- (2) Authorize the School Facilities Authority to develop workforce housing for teachers on land not owned by the Department of Education;
- (3) Allow the School Facilities Authority to use the Department of Education for certain recruitment and hiring responsibilities; and
- (4) Allow the School Facilities Authority to partner with public and private development agencies to develop prekindergarten facilities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the School Facilities Authority and Hawai‘i Children's Action Network Speaks!. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Education; Department of the Attorney General; Office of Information Practice; and Department of Community Services of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that the statutory authority delegated to the School Facilities Authority could be carried out with greater efficiency if amendments were made. This measure clarifies the responsibilities of the School Facilities Authority to better carry out its statutory duties and responsibilities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have specified certain responsibilities of the School Facilities Authority under chapter 302L, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (2) Clarifying that the School Facilities Authority is responsible for projects related to:
 - (A) Certain facilities for prekindergarten, preschool, child care, and early learning programs;
 - (B) Workforce housing; and
 - (C) Any public school development, planning, and construction assigned by the Legislature, Governor, or Board of Education; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 329, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 329, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 737 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1433

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) For a one-year pilot period beginning on February 5, 2026:
 - (A) Extend the period for a notice of termination of a rental agreement;
 - (B) Require landlords to engage in mediation and delay filing an action for summary possession if a tenant schedules or attempts to schedule mediation; and
 - (C) Requires landlords to provide specific information in the ten calendar-day notice to tenants; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the Judiciary to contract for mediation services.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Mediation Center of the Pacific; Ku'ikahi Mediation; Kauai Economic Opportunity Incorporated; Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS.

Your Committee finds that many people in the State continue to face challenges paying their rent due to the ever-increasing costs of housing. In an effort to reduce evictions and facilitate mediation, the Legislature enacted Act 57, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021 (Act 57), which modified notice requirements for residential summary possession proceedings, mandated pre-filing mediation, and made funding available for pre-filing mediation services and rent relief through subsidies. Your Committee believes that Act 57 was successful in avoiding evictions, thereby keeping people in homes and ensuring landlords received their rent payments. Despite its success, Act 57 ended on August 6, 2022. Your Committee believes the success of Act 57 merits the continuation of a similar eviction mediation program.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the number of days required for a landlord to file an action for summary possession from twenty to thirty days following the tenant's receipt of the ten-day-calendar notice; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1433, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1433, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 738 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 616

The purpose of this measure is to provide increased protection for educational workers by requiring the Department of Education and state public charter schools to take certain steps to better address the harassment of educational workers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; and nine individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that the many instances of harassment inflicted on educational workers warrants the establishment of procedures to safeguard the health and safety of educational workers. Your Committee also finds that safe schools are fundamental to creating and fostering an optimal learning and working environment. School safety is linked to improved student performance and school outcomes. This measure recognizes the necessity of safeguarding educational workers to enable optimal delivery of educational services to students and families and maintaining a safe learning and working environment.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that educational workers included in bargaining units must negotiate leaves of absence pursuant to certain negotiation processes; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 616, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 616, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 739 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 427

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Rename the Department of Agriculture to the "Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity";
- (2) Rename the Board of Agriculture to the "Board of Agriculture and Biosecurity";
- (3) Establish and appropriate funds for a Deputy Director of Biosecurity;
- (4) Change references to the plant and animal declaration form to the "biosecurity form";
- (5) Authorize and specify conditions under which the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity may declare a biosecurity emergency, during which the Department and Governor may take certain actions to prevent the establishment or spread of pests and prohibited or restricted organisms;
- (6) Broaden the objectives and general actions of the Biosecurity Program; and
- (7) Appropriate funds for positions for the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Invasive Species Council; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Hawaii Food+ Policy; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and Larry Jeffs Farms, LLC. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Carol Kwan Consulting LLC. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species; O'ahu Invasive Species Committee; and Matson Navigation Company, Inc.

Your Committee finds that Acts 197 and 231, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, bolstered agriculture biosecurity in the State under the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture. Your Committee further finds that given the Department of Agriculture's growing presence in protecting the State from invasive species, that it is appropriate for the name of the Department change to reflect its growing priorities. This measure, among other things, renames the Department and Board of Agriculture to the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity and Board of Agriculture and Biosecurity, respectively.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 427, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 427, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 740 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 745

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Beginning on the date the International Code Council 2024 suite of published codes is adopted as the Hawaii State Building Code, makes the most recent Hawaii state building codes adopted by the State Building Code Council supersede all existing county building codes and thereafter allows counties to amend the Hawaii State Building Code as it applies within their jurisdiction; and
- (2) Repeals the counties' authority to adopt, amend, and update the Hawaii state building codes for their respective county building codes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Fire Department; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Hawai'i YIMBY; Hawaii State Council and Legislative Advocacy Committee of the American Institute of Architects; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1260 and Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Association of Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services; Department of Public Works of the County of Hawai'i; and Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that under the existing staggered system, counties must adopt and amend building codes independently, creating inconsistencies, administrative delays, and higher costs for builders and emergency responders. These inefficiencies can lead to permitting backlogs, increased construction costs, and a lack of uniform safety standards. This measure streamlines the code adoption process, which should eliminate inefficiencies.

Your Committee notes that the written testimony of the Department of Accounting and General Services was submitted at the hearing. As such, your Committee was not able to give it proper consideration prior to decision making. Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the late testimony submitted by the Department of Accounting and General Services.

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. 745, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Perruso, Takayama, Garcia, Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 741 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 108

The purpose of this measure is to allow the direct shipment of beer and distilled spirits by certain liquor licensees.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Lanikai Brewing Co.; Maui Brewing Co.; Koloa Rum; Brewers Association; Howzit Brewing; Kauai Beer Company; Beer Lab Hawaii; and Ola Brew Co. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaii Liquor Wholesalers Association and Hawaii Food Industry Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that existing state law limits direct shipping of alcoholic beverages to wineries, prohibiting non-winery manufacturers from shipping beer and distilled spirits to consumers. Your Committee further finds that allowing direct business-to-consumer shipping will support local breweries and distilleries, facilitate commerce and generate revenue within the State, and expand market access to Hawaii products outside the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the procedure for obtaining a direct beer or distilled spirits shipper permit; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 108, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 108, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 742 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 306

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Ensure that all violators of the State Water Code are held accountable for their violations by adding a minimum penalty and amending the maximum penalty, with scheduled incremental increases, per violation of the State Water Code and clarifying what constitutes a separate offense; and
- (2) Require the Commission on Water Resource Management to consider certain factors when imposing penalties.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Ulupono Initiative; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that this measure will better enable the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Commission on Water Resource Management to protect the precious water resources of Hawaii by amending and clarifying the penalty structure for violators of the State Water Code.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider requiring the fine to be no less than \$50 and no more than \$25,000 per violation, with the maximum fine increasing to:

- (1) \$30,000 beginning January 1, 2030;
- (2) \$40,000 beginning January 1, 2035;
- (3) \$55,000 beginning January 1, 2040; and
- (4) \$75,000 beginning January 1, 2045.

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. 306, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 306, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 743 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 642

The purpose of this measure is to require all state agencies proposing, adopting, amending, or repealing a rule to make the full text of the rules of the agency available on the website of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor in a digitally accessible and searchable format.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Public First Law Center; ACLU Hawaii; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.

Your Committee finds that this measure will promote transparency and make it easier for the public to access government rules and participate in the rulemaking process.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee notes that the Office of the Lieutenant Governor has requested that the effective date be changed to January 1, 2026, to allow state agencies the opportunity to coordinate with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.

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. 642, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 642, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 744 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 686

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Define "community outreach board" to mean a board established to serve in a community advisory capacity under a county commission or a county department;
- (2) Include community outreach boards in existing provisions of the Sunshine Law that relate to neighborhood boards; and
- (3) Authorize neighborhood board and community outreach board members to organize meetings or presentations related to official board business statewide.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Kona Community Development Plan Action Committee; South Kohala Community Development Plan Action Committee; Ka'u Community Development Plan Action Committee; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Information Practices and Public First Law Center.

Your Committee finds that boards created for community outreach, like the Hawaii County Community Development Plan Action Committees, act as intermediaries between residents and government leaders to address local concerns, share information, and collaborate on solutions. However, these boards are not specific to one neighborhood, making it unclear whether they qualify as "neighborhood boards" under the special provisions of Hawaii's Sunshine Law. Ensuring open access to these community outreach boards is crucial for fostering thriving communities across the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the preamble;
- (2) Amending the definition of "community outreach board" to delete any reference to county commissions;
- (3) Deleting language that would have allowed neighborhood boards and community outreach boards to organize meetings or presentations related to official board business statewide;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and

(5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 686, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 686, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 745 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1150

The purpose of this measure is to suspend the statute of limitations on certain collection activities during the period an assessment is pending on appeal before the Taxation Board of Review or Tax Appeal Court.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Taxation. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that this measure ensures that the State has the opportunity to collect taxes once the appeal process is concluded, regardless of the duration of the appeal. Without this suspension, taxpayers could potentially delay or avoid tax payments by prolonging the appeal process, which could harm the State's revenue system and disrupt the fairness of tax enforcement. This measure helps maintain the integrity of tax collections while protecting the taxpayer's right to a fair review process.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1150, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1150, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 746 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 322

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize state agencies to implement automatic voter registration if designated by the Office of Elections; and
- (2) Require eligible applicants for instruction permits, provisional licenses, driver's licenses, and identification cards to be automatically registered or preregistered to vote unless the applicants opt out.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Common Cause Hawaii; Our Hawai'i; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Greenpeace Hawaii; Kauai Women's Caucus; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Elections; Department of Human Services; Department of Customer Services of the City and County of Honolulu; and Call2Recycle, Inc.

Your Committee finds that voter registration should be convenient, secure, and beneficial to both new voters and administrators. This measure will improve election system efficiency and security, while making it easier for eligible applicants to register to vote.

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. 322, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 747 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 380

The purpose of this measure is to repeal existing laws that:

- (1) Declare the sale of cigarettes, tobacco products, and electronic smoking devices a statewide concern; and
- (2) Preempt all local ordinances and regulations that regulate the sale of cigarettes, tobacco products, and electronic smoking devices.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Health; two members of the Kaua'i County Council; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Hawai'i State Association of Counties; Hawaii COPD Coalition; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hawai'i Public Health Association; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Friends of Kamalani & Lydgate Park; Lokahi Treatment Centers; Mala Hanai Pua LLC; Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i; Hawaii Association of Independent Schools; Hamakua Health Center Inc.; Tobacco-Free Kids Action Fund; Hawaii Dental Association; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; AlohaCare; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Retail Merchants of Hawaii; BMA Mart; Discount Smoke Shop Hawaii; Bionic Petroleum; No. 1 Store; China Town Liquor; Wawa Market; R&K Liquor; Marukin Market; Cigarettes & Things; Hawaii Smokers Alliance; Cigar Association of America, Inc.; Americans for Tax Reform; S&K Wholesale; Kilani Market; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Tax Foundation and ABC Stores.

Your Committee finds that innovative, community-based solutions are needed to address tobacco-related disparities across the State. Your Committee further finds that Hawaii's local communities have been historically successful in adopting strong, innovative public health and tobacco control policies that changed social norms across the State.

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. 380, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 748 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 594

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require hotelkeepers to provide adequate notice of service disruptions to guests and third-party vendors under certain conditions; and
- (2) Allow for recovery of damages by injured consumers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State AFL-CIO and UNITE HERE Local 5. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Kohala Coast Resort Association.

Your Committee finds travelers staying in hotels are often vulnerable to service disruptions that they may not be aware of at the time of booking. To protect travelers and maintain the vitality of the tourism sector, your Committee believes that it is essential for hotels to notify guests of potential disruptions and allow them to cancel reservations without penalty.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the circumstances under which a guest may terminate any remaining period of a reservation, booking, or agreement for the use of a room or hotel service without being assessed a fee, penalty, or other charge or forfeiting certain deposits;
- (2) Amending the amount of damages that a hotelkeeper must pay to an injured consumer;
- (3) Deleting language that would have established a private right of action by an injured consumer;
- (4) Clarifying that the term "guest" includes hotel service users; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 594, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 594, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 749 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 655

The purpose of this measure is to limit the required payment of certain unpaid motor vehicle taxes and fees and accompanying financial penalties to those incurred during the most recent five consecutive years of delinquency.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Transportation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that establishing limitations on the payment of unpaid motor vehicle taxes, fees, and penalties will reduce the financial burden on residents with long-term delinquent vehicle taxes. This measure will also alleviate the administrative burden on government agencies attempting to collect old debts.

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. 655, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 750 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 697

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow authorized employees of the Department of Transportation and Department of Law Enforcement to inspect and provide a certificate of certain evidence for speed limit violations obtained by automated speed enforcement systems; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to the Department of Transportation to establish and implement the Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Transportation is actively working to expand the Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program. This measure will support the expansion of the Program, enable more effective enforcement and implementation, and alleviate potential staffing challenges within county police departments, which are currently the only authorized entity responsible for inspecting and certifying speed limit violations obtained through the Program.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Allowing authorized employees of the Department of Transportation and Department of Law Enforcement to review and verify the validity of the clear and unobstructed photographic, digital, or other visual image of the license plate of the motor vehicle before mailing the summons or citation for a traffic infraction; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 697, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 697, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 751 Education/Economic Development & Technology on H.B. No. 714

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to support educational programs that expand the State's health care workforce.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hawai'i State Center for Nursing; The Queen's Health Systems; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hilo Benioff Medical Center; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Liberty Dialysis Hawaii; Hawaii Medical Association; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; AlohaCare; and one individual. Your Committees received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committees find that the needs of the rapidly aging population in the State are contributing to increased demand for workers throughout the health care field. Your Committees further find that public high school health care workforce certificate programs are designed to provide students with the training and skills necessary to enter health care positions immediately after graduation. This measure supports health care training, especially for the State's public high school students, to help meet Hawaii's long-term health care workforce needs.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Education and Economic Development & Technology that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 714, H.D. 1, and recommend that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Education: Ayes, 11. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Economic Development & Technology: Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Matsumoto).

SCRep. 752 Education on H.B. No. 864

The purpose of this measure is to allow newly graduated former students to be eligible for the State's workers' compensation coverage during the summer following their high school graduation while participating in work-based learning programs sponsored by the Department of Education.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Lou's Quality Home Health Care Services, LLC; Advanced Care Training, LLC; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that, to support new high school graduates as they transition to their post-secondary plans, the Department of Education offers work-based learning opportunities, including industry-led summer training and internships, as an extension of the Department's Career and Technical Education program of study. However, without workers' compensation coverage for new high school graduates, employers and organizations may be hesitant to host young adults as interns. Your Committee believes that extending workers' compensation coverage for new high school graduates participating in Department-approved paid or unpaid work-based learning experiences in the public or private sector will prepare these graduates for the current and emerging workforce in the State.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 864, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

SCRep. 753 Education on H.B. No. 1066

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Add the Head Start State Collaboration Office Director as an ex officio, non-voting member of the Early Learning Board; and
- (2) Require the Early Learning Board to invite the President of the Head Start Association of Hawaii, or the President's designee, to serve as an ex officio, non-voting member of the Board.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Early Learning Board and Executive Office on Early Learning.

Your Committee finds that the federal Head Start Act directs the governor of an applicable state to designate or establish a council to serve as the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care pursuant to section 642B of the Head Start Act. Members of the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care include the State Director of the Head Start Collaboration Office and a representative from the Head Start agencies located in the State.

Your Committee further finds that the State Advisory Council in Hawaii is the Early Learning Board. This measure will align state law with the federal Head Start Act by requiring the Early Learning Board to invite the President of the Head Start Association of Hawaii or the President's designee as an ex officio, non-voting member of the Board.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1066, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1066, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

SCRep. 754 Education on H.B. No. 89

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for the Teacher Housing Assistance Program to provide housing vouchers to certain eligible teachers who are employed at a hard-to-fill school.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Education; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee finds that the State is experiencing a severe shortage of qualified teachers. Your Committee further finds that high cost of living and lack of affordable housing are major contributing factors to the teacher shortage. Your Committee believes that providing housing vouchers to qualifying teachers will alleviate the financial burden on teachers in obtaining housing.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Establishing procedures for the repayment of voucher funds by a teacher if the teacher is unable to fulfill the requirements of the Teacher Housing Assistance Program;

- (2) Clarifying the eligibility requirements for participation in the Teacher Housing Assistance Program to:
 - (A) Include teachers who have taught at a public charter school for at least one year prior to applying for the Program; and
 - (B) Require teachers to commit to teach at a hard-to-staff school, rather than a hard-to-fill school, as determined by the Department of Education; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 89, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 89, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

SCRep. 755 Education on H.B. No. 1437

The purpose of this measure is to establish a general excise tax exemption on the gross proceeds or gross income received from sales of commodities or services that benefit nonprofit schools.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools; Le Jardin Academy; Kauai Christian Academy; Sacred Hearts Academy; Cavalry Chapel Christian School; Hongwanji Mission School; Montessori Community School; Hawaii Baptist Academy; Hanalani Schools; Holy Nativity School; Waimea Country School; 'Iolani School; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that establishing a general excise tax exemption on the gross proceeds or gross income received from sales of commodities or services that benefit nonprofit schools will ensure that more resources remain within the educational community, ultimately benefiting students, teachers, and programs that enrich learning. Your Committee further finds that alleviating financial burdens associated with fundraising efforts will support nonprofit schools continue their missions of preparing future generations for success.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the nonprofit school be registered with the Department of Taxation;
- (2) Clarifying that the school-sponsored student activity group be a nonprofit school-sponsored activity group; and
- (3) Changing the effective date to January 1, 3000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1437, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1437, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

SCRep. 756 Education on H.B. No. 1065

The purpose of this measure is to require stipend funds repaid by a stipend recipient under the Hawaii Early Childhood Educator Stipend Program to be deposited into the Early Learning Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Early Learning Board and Executive Office on Early Learning.

Your Committee finds that Act 210, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, mandated the abolishment and repeal of the Early Childhood Educator Special Fund. This measure will redirect the funds that would have been deposited into the Early Childhood Educator Special Fund into the Early Learning Special Fund.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1065, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1065, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

SCRep. 757 Education on H.B. No. 1234

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Education to establish a standards-based Water Safety Education Pilot Program; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the establishment of the standards-based Water Safety Education Pilot Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Parks and Recreation of the County of Hawai'i; Waikiki Neighborhood Board; Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition; Hawaiian Lifeguard Association; Hawaii Water Safety Coalition; Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku Foundation; Alex & Duke De Rego Foundation; and nine individuals. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that drowning is the leading cause of death for children aged one to fifteen in Hawaii and disproportionately affects the cause of death for individuals under the age of twenty-five. This preventable tragedy represents a significant public health concern and underscores the urgent need for action to address water safety in the State.

Your Committee further finds that evidence-based approaches demonstrate that drowning is preventable. This measure establishes a standards-based Water Safety Education Pilot Program within the Department of Education as a first step to expanding access to swimming lessons and water safety education that will protect Hawaii's youth and reduce drowning incidents statewide.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1234, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1234, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

SCRep. 758 Education on H.B. No. 133

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Education to support the establishment of surfing as an interscholastic sport.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the County of Kaua'i; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku Foundation; Hawaii Water Safety Coalition; Hawaiian Lifeguard Association; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that, in recognition of surfing as a part of the State's history and its long-standing cultural roots in Hawaii, surfing was sanctioned by the Department of Education and approved by the Board of Education as a high school sport in 2016. However, only one of five local athletic leagues have sponsored surfing. This measure appropriates funds to support surfing as an interscholastic sport to provide opportunities for students to pursue competitive surfing in the future.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 133, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 133, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

SCRep. 759 Education on H.B. No. 867

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require, by June 30, 2030, all playgrounds located in state parks and on public school grounds to have a minimal set of accessible recreational playground equipment; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Department of Education to purchase and install accessible recreational playground equipment.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Disability and Communication Access Board; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education; Department of Budget and Finance; and Department of Land and Natural Resources' Division of State Parks.

Your Committee finds that the lack of disability-compatible equipment in Department of Education playgrounds and state parks and playgrounds can have a negative impact on physically disabled youth in Hawaii. Your Committee further finds that installing accessible recreational playground equipment in playgrounds will enhance the inclusion of physically disabled youth in important socialization activities.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 867, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

SCRep. 760 Housing on H.B. No. 826

The purpose of this measure is to authorize, until June 30, 2035, a county planning commission, by special permit, to allow land uses exclusively providing residential housing for long-term rental or workforce fee simple ownership in an agricultural district, under certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Land Use Commission; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; one member of the Maui County Council; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from LIMBY Hawai'i and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development and Sierra Club of Hawai'i.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii faces a severe housing shortage, particularly in long-term rentals and workforce fee simple housing. Existing land use and development processes present significant barriers, contributing to delays in much-needed housing projects. This measure allows county planning commissions to approve affordable housing projects on lands already designated for residential use, which will eliminate unnecessary state-level hurdles while maintaining environmental protections and local control over land use decisions.

Your Committee notes its intent to have the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation define "affordable", "long-term rental", and "agricultural workforce housing" through their rulemaking authority, rather than statutorily defining those terms.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Expanding the land uses that may be permitted by a county planning commission under this measure to include agricultural workforce housing;
- (2) Clarifying that project areas needed to have been identified in a county's comprehensive general plan adopted no earlier than 2005, rather than within twenty years of the application filing;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 826, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 826, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 761 Housing on H.B. No. 252

The purpose of this measure is to require managing agents for residential condominium properties over seventy-five feet in height to have commercial property management experience.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Legislative Action Committee of the Community Associations Institute and eight individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Real Estate Commission; Hawaii Council of Community Associations; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that residential high-rise condominium properties have complex operational, safety, and financial management needs similar to commercial buildings. Additionally, these condominiums may also lease available space to other commercial businesses. Volunteer condominium board members rely on managing agents to navigate these challenges effectively. This measure seeks to ensure that high-rise condominium properties are managed efficiently and responsibly by requiring managing agents to have commercial property management experience.

However, your Committee notes the various concerns raised in testimony, particularly about what qualifies as "experience" for managing agents and whether they should be required to obtain a professional license or an equivalent educational accreditation. Additional concerns were raised about the differences between managing residential and commercial properties and whether experience in one area is sufficient for the other. Your Committee appreciates these concerns but believes that this dialogue should be continued by your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, where matters of condominium governance and management are more appropriately addressed. Your Committee therefore respectfully requests your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, should it deliberate on this measure, to address these concerns and determine the most preferred approach as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 252, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 252, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 762 Housing on H.B. No. 367

The purpose of this measure is to allow for building permit exemptions for certain kinds of activities, including agricultural structures and maintenance activities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Farm Bureau and Grassroot Institute of Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that the existing building permit requirements for minor repairs, interior remodeling, and certain uninhabited structures in the State can cause unnecessary delays and administrative burdens for property owners and developers. Many maintenance activities and small-scale projects, such as routine repairs or the installation of accessory structures, pose minimal risk and do not warrant an extensive permitting process. This measure is intended to streamline the process for property owners while ensuring compliance with safety and floodplain management standards by creating certain exemptions from building permit requirements. However, your Committee notes the concerns raised in testimony by the Department of Land and Natural Resources that certain exemptions proposed by this measure may be inconsistent with the National Flood Insurance Program, which may have unintended consequences.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that certain activities are exempt from obtaining any county permit, rather than only a county building permit, when located in areas outside of a special management area;
- (2) Requiring an owner or occupier who intends to perform any interior remodeling work on an existing structure to submit written notification to the appropriate county agency;
- (3) Specifying that the authority granted under this measure shall not be construed to exempt any new or existing buildings, structures, related appurtenances, or other work from underlying zoning requirements;
- (4) Changing the effective date to January 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 367, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 367, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 763 Housing on H.B. No. 422

The purpose of this measure is to repeal School Impact Fees and transfer unencumbered balances of the School Impact Fee Subaccount to the School Facilities Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Office of Housing of the City and County of Honolulu; Libertarian Party of Hawaii; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Hawai'i YIMBY; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education; School Facilities Authority; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; and LIMBY Hawai'i.

Your Committee finds that school impact fees were established to address the impact of new residential developments on the surrounding community and potential increase of students in that community. Your Committee notes that between 2007 and 2018, the Department of Education collected slightly more than \$5,300,000, far under the \$80,000,000 or more needed to build one new school. Rather than being used to help support schools, school impact fees have

only added additional costs to housing developments, which in some cases resulted in a housing project becoming financially untenable. Your Committee believes that the State must reduce the cost of housing to address the housing crisis and develop more affordable housing for Hawaii's residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Abolishing certain fair share contribution accounts within the Donations - Facilities Trust under the Department of Education and lapsing any unencumbered balances to the School Facilities Special Fund;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 422, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 422, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 764 Housing on H.B. No. 1188

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Teacher Workforce Housing Stipend Program to support teacher retention at public and charter schools classified as hard-to-staff; and
- (2) Amend the purpose and uses of the Teachers' Housing Revolving Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that the State's high cost of living and limited affordable housing options have made it increasingly difficult for teachers to live in the communities where they work. This housing insecurity is a major contributing factor in high teacher turnover rates and increased reliance on emergency hires, which creates a disruption in the education provided to students. Your Committee believes that establishing a Teacher Workforce Housing Stipend Program will help alleviate housing-related financial pressures, thereby stabilizing the teaching workforce, and ensuring that students in hard-to-staff communities have access to consistent, high-quality education.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1188, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1188, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 765 Housing on H.B. No. 431

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Appropriate funds for the Kauhale Initiative;
- (2) Establish and appropriate funds into and out of the Supportive Housing Special Fund; and
- (3) Appropriate funds to assist the Statewide Office of Homelessness and Housing Solutions to implement the Kauhale Initiative.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness; Department of Human Services; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Office of Housing of the City and County of Honolulu; Office of Housing and Community Development of the County of Hawai'i; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Kūpuna Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; The Institute for Human Services, Inc.; Hawai'i State Youth Commission; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Pacific Housing Assistance Corporation; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and State Procurement Office.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii faces a severe housing crisis, with a critical shortage of affordable and supportive housing options for homeless individuals and those at risk of homelessness. Despite ongoing efforts, the State continues to experience rising homelessness and insufficient long-term housing solutions to meet the growing demand. This measure is essential to strengthen the State's capacity to work with developers in creating additional housing, ensuring more sustainable and permanent solutions to address housing insecurity and promote community stability.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Expanding the authorized uses of funds appropriated for the Kauhale Initiative;
- (2) Authorizing funds appropriated for the Kauhale Initiative to be used for the Ohana Zones Pilot Program established under Act 209, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018;
- (3) Requiring at least two bidders for any kauhale project estimated to be over \$1,000,000 if appropriated funds are used to contract for the procurement of building services and projects related to the Kauhale Initiative;
- (4) Deleting the unspecified appropriation to the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions to implement the Kauhale Initiative; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 431, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 431, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Kila). Noes, 1 (Muraoka). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 766 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 256

The purpose of this measure is to require an owner or operator of a waste-to-energy facility to comply with certain United States Environmental Protection Agency regulations as they existed on December 31, 2024.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Environmental Services of the City and County of Honolulu; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Reworld; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the State must ensure that environmental standards governing the operations of waste-to-energy facilities are upheld regardless of any potential backsliding on existing emission limits that may be proposed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that owners or operators of waste-to-energy facilities must comply with certain regulations for emission limitations as they existed on December 31, 2024, unless emission limitations are made more stringent;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 256, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 256, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 767 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 332

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Expand the Electronic Device Recycling and Recovery Act to include the collection and recycling of certain lithium-ion batteries; and
- (2) Require manufacturers of lithium-ion batteries to recycle or arrange for the recycling of lithium-ion batteries sold in the State, and ensure the safe collection, storage, transportation, and recycling of batteries.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Department of Environmental Management of the County of Hawai'i; Product Stewardship Institute; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Retail Merchants of Hawaii; Consumer Healthcare Products Association; Consumer Technology Association; The Rechargeable Battery Association; Mr. K's Recycle and Redemption Center, Inc.; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Hawaii State Energy Office; and Hawaii Food Industry Association.

Your Committee finds that the improper disposal of lithium-ion batteries poses safety and environmental risks. However, your Committee finds that this measure, as drafted, may be premature and recognizes the need to further assess recycling methods for certain types of lithium-ion batteries in order to implement effective policies that would address the environmental harm associated with improper disposal.

Therefore, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting its contents, except the preamble, and inserting language establishing a Lithium-ion Battery Recycling Working Group to assess recycling methods for small and medium format lithium-ion batteries;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that although this measure does not contain an appropriation, the Department of Health has identified the need for an appropriation of \$75,000 for the working group, to potentially be appropriated from the Deposit Beverage Container Deposit Special Fund.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 332, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 332, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 768 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 975

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Permanently establish the Hawaii Carbon Smart Land Management Assistance Program; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to support the program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Hawai'i Forest Industry Association; 350Hawaii.org; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Waiehu Land LLC; Mililani Agricultural Park LLC; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Hawaii Carbon Smart Land Management Assistance Pilot Program has received a high degree of engagement from local farmers, ranchers, foresters, and other stakeholders. The program has shown promise in promoting sustainable land management, increasing carbon sequestration, supporting regenerative agriculture, and bolstering climate resilience. This measure permanently establishes the program and provides necessary funding to ensure its continued success.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Prohibiting program participants from using compensation provided under the program for the purposes of carbon offsetting initiatives;
- (2) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (3) Changing the number of positions established to an unspecified number;

- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$2,000,000 and one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent position.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 975, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 975, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 769 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.B. No. 974

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the State to enter into step-in agreements for payment obligations arising under certain power purchase agreements;
- (2) Establish the Power Purchase Costs Trust Fund;
- (3) Establish that revenues from on-bill charges for power purchase agreements and accompanying reserves shall be held in trust by the State, and that independent power producers shall hold a beneficial interest in the revenue and reserve to the extent of the amounts owed under the covered power purchase agreements; and
- (4) Permit the Department of Budget and Finance to contract with an electric utility to serve as an agent of the Department for the purposes of billing, collection, and management in the service of performing step-in agreements.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Public Utilities Commission; Ulupono Initiative; Ameresco; Hawaiian Electric; Plus Power; Hawaii Clean Power Alliance; AES Hawai'i; Clearway Energy Group LLC; and Longroad Energy. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; and Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that this measure addresses the challenge of ensuring reliable, affordable clean energy by securing payments to independent power producers even if an electric utility faces financial difficulties. By requiring the Department of Budget and Finance to enter into step-in agreements, the measure guarantees that renewable energy projects continue without disruption, safeguarding energy reliability.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding definitions for "reserve fees" and "revenue";
- (2) Clarifying that the Department of Budget and Finance, not the State, will enter into step-in agreements;
- (3) Clarifying that the Department of Budget and Finance's payment obligation under a step-in agreement is limited to revenues from power purchase charges and reserve fees collected in connection with covered power purchase agreements;
- (4) Clarifying that step-in agreements do not pledge the full faith and credit of the State or any other monies of the State;
- (5) Clarifying that upon termination of a step-in agreement, the Department of Budget and Finance has no obligation to the electric utility or obligee upon a default by the electric utility;
- (6) Allowing the electric utility, following a default of a covered power purchase agreement and any payment by the Department of Budget and Finance, to resume payments for power purchase costs owed by it through agreement with all obligees of its covered power purchase agreements, rather than in its sole discretion;
- (7) Allowing the electric utility to file monthly rate adjustments with the Public Utilities Commission to establish or adjust power purchase charges to recover applicable taxes, government fees, and administrative costs of the Department of Budget and Finance;
- (8) Establishing the Power Purchase Costs Trust Fund outside, rather than within, the state treasury;
- (9) Requiring the Public Utilities Commission to authorize reserve fees proposed by an electric utility by August 1, 2025;
- (10) Requiring the Department of Budget and Finance to maintain a separate reserve account within the Power Purchase Costs Trust Fund to accept and account for revenues from reserve fees and requiring the electric utility to deposit all revenues collected from reserve fees into the account;
- (11) Requiring all monies remaining in the Power Purchase Costs Trust Fund to be returned to customers through a rate credit if the step-in agreement terminates;
- (12) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (13) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee recognizes the testimony from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, which indicates that a reserve in the amount currently specified in this measure may not be constitutionally required and notes that provisions regarding the reserve have not been removed as it is unclear whether the intended purpose of the measure would be served without inclusion of the reserve.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 974, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 974, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 770 Public Safety on H.B. No. 1296

The purpose of this measure is to establish timely notice and reporting requirements to the Legislature by the Governor regarding the transfer of appropriations to the Major Disaster Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of the Governor and Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that full transparency and accountability require a complete accounting of all appropriations transferred and deposited into the Major Disaster Fund, as well as all reimbursements of Federal Emergency Management Agency funds received by the Fund. Your Committee further finds that assessing the effects to departments of the transfers made from various appropriations is vital to ensuring that programs from which funding was transferred remain effective.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Decreasing to 21 days the time by which the Administrator of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency must report to the Legislature after any allotment or transfer by the Governor or the expenditure of any Major Disaster Fund monies;
- (2) Requiring the reporting of transfers of monies to or from the Major Disaster Fund;
- (3) Further clarifying the types of information to be included in the report to the Legislature regarding the Major Disaster Fund;
- (4) Requiring the Department of Budget and Finance to report to the Legislature concerning interest earned on federal reimbursement monies;
- (5) Changing its effective date to June 30, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1296, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1296, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Hashem, Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 771 Public Safety on H.B. No. 433

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for reentry services to connect offenders with community-based services.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission; Office of the Public Defender; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Community Alliance on Prisons; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and ACLU Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that sustained funding for offender reentry services is critical to the public safety of all communities across the State because success in transitioning offenders and supporting their re-entry and re-integration into society reduces the cycle of recidivism.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider appropriations of \$4,000,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and fiscal year 2026-2027 for reentry services to connect offenders with community-based services.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 433, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 433, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ichiyama, Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 772 Public Safety on H.B. No. 1060

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Community Readiness Centers Program to be implemented and administered by the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency;
- (2) Establish the Community Readiness Centers Special Fund for the implementation and administration of the Community Readiness Centers Program;
- (3) Rename the Environmental Response, Energy, and Food Security Tax to the Environmental Response, Energy, Food Security, and Resilience Tax; and
- (4) Allocate portions of the Environmental Response, Energy, Food Security, and Resilience Tax into the Community Readiness Centers Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Defense and Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Hawai'i Climate Advisory Team; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that as natural disasters become more frequent, it is critical to have centralized locations where communities across the State can access essential support and health and medical services during and after emergencies.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the amount of the tax on each barrel or fractional part of a barrel of petroleum product that is not aviation fuel to be deposited into the Community Readiness Centers Special Fund to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the percentage of the tax on each one million British thermal units of certain fossil fuels to be deposited into the Community Readiness Centers Special Fund to an unspecified amount;
- (3) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1060, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1060, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, 1 (Shimizu). Excused, 3 (Hashem, Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 773 Public Safety on H.B. No. 1330

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds to make critical capital improvements for the replacement and relocation of the Oahu Community Correctional Center.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Imua Alliance; ACLU Hawaii; and Reimagining Public Safety in Hawai'i Coalition. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; Department of Accounting and General Services; and Community Alliance on Prisons.

Your Committee finds that Oahu Community Correctional Center urgently needs to be replaced and relocated.

Your Committee further finds that the process of relocating the Oahu Community Correctional Center to Halawa has moved forward with the Department of Accounting and General Services now at the point of developing and issuing the request for qualification for the project. Your Committee also notes that replacing the current Oahu Community Correctional Center will help the State provide much needed re-entry and re-integration services to incarcerated individuals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider authorizing \$30,000,000 in general obligation bonds for the replacement and relocation of the Oahu Community Correctional Center.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1330, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1330, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 1 (Iwamoto). Excused, 3 (Ichiyama, Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 774 Higher Education on H.B. No. 970

The purpose of this measure is to authorize chiropractic students to engage in clinical practice as part of their college instruction if directly supervised by a licensed chiropractor.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State Chiropractic Association and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Board of Chiropractic.

Your Committee finds that allowing students to apply the knowledge and skills they have learned in the classroom in real-world settings through clinical practice will allow these students to gain additional essential skills that they will need after graduation.

Your Committee notes that the Hawaii Board of Chiropractic requested in its testimony to defer implementation of this measure until July 2027 to allow sufficient time for the Board to promulgate rules that set out the requirements for students enrolled in a qualified chiropractic college to engage in clinical practice as part of their college instruction under the direct supervision of a qualified licensed chiropractor.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that students enrolled in a qualified chiropractic college are authorized to engage in clinical practice as part of their college instruction if directly supervised by a qualified licensed chiropractor;
- (2) Requiring the Hawaii Board of Chiropractic to adopt rules to:
 - (A) Specify the requirements for a qualified chiropractic college;
 - (B) Specify the requirements for a student enrolled in a qualified chiropractic college to engage in clinical practice under the direct supervision of a qualified licensed chiropractor; and
 - (C) Define clinical practice;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 970, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 970, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Sayama).

SCRep. 775 Higher Education on H.B. No. 1494

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Lapse appropriations of general obligation bond funds previously authorized for the planning, design, and construction of a stadium in Halawa by the Stadium Authority;
- (2) Authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds for a new or upgraded stadium;
- (3) Rename the Stadium Authority and Stadium Development District as the Halawa Redevelopment Authority and Halawa Redevelopment District, respectively;
- (4) Authorize the Halawa Development Authority to sell the naming rights to a stadium located within the Halawa Development District and operated by the Authority; and

- (5) Permit the display of the name of an entity that has purchased naming rights to a stadium operated by the Halawa Redevelopment Authority on the exterior of the stadium.

Prior to the hearing on this measure, your Committee posted and made available for public review a proposed H.D. 2, which reverts to the contents of this measure as it was introduced. The proposed H.D. 2:

- (1) Lapses appropriations of general obligation bond funds previously authorized for the planning, design, and construction of a stadium in Halawa by the Stadium Authority;
- (2) Authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds for the upgrade of the stadium on the University of Hawaii at Manoa campus; and
- (3) Renames the Stadium Authority and Stadium Development District as the Halawa Redevelopment Authority and Halawa Redevelopment District, respectively.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the proposed H.D. 2 from one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to the proposed H.D. 2 from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Stadium Authority; and General Contractors Association of Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on the proposed H.D. 2 from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that the proposed H.D. 2 will allow for the upgrade of the stadium located at the University of Hawaii Manoa campus, in the event that the New Aloha Stadium and Entertainment District project is not able to be completed. Your Committee further finds that the proposed H.D. 2 protects the interests of the University of Hawaii's football program in its quest to remain compliant with NCAA stadium seating requirements.

Your Committee has amended this measure by adopting the proposed H.D. 2.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1494, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1494, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Olds). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Sayama).

SCRep. 776 Consumer Protection & Commerce/Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 982

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Wildfire Recovery Fund, body politic tasked with administratively settling claims for economic damages resulting from catastrophic wildfires and allow public utilities to make contributions to the Wildfire Recovery Fund; and
- (2) Authorize electric utilities to recover their contributions through securitization.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Sustainable Energy Hawai'i; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; Hawai'i Climate Advisory Team; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; Clearway Energy Group; Plus Power; Par Hawaii; Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Hawai'i; Life of the Land; AES Hawai'i; Retail Merchants of Hawaii; International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, District Council 50; Plumbers & Fitters UA Local 675; International Association of Heat & Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 132; Hawaii Teamsters Local 996; and three individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies; Hawaii Association for Justice; Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters; and one individual. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Office of the Governor; Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of the Attorney General; Division of Consumer Advocacy of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Public Utilities Commission; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Mālama Learning Center; Kaala Farm; Hawaiian Electric; Charter Communications; Pacific Resource Partnership; Hawaii Building & Construction Trades Council; and numerous individuals.

Your Committees find that as wildfire risk has increased in a warming climate, it would be prudent to develop a streamlined process to quickly offer settlement payments for property damages after a catastrophic wildfire, without the need for a lengthy and uncertain litigation process. This measure establishes the Wildfire Recovery Fund, which is modeled after the One Ohana Fund, to ensure the timely compensation for persons who suffered property damage come a catastrophic wildfire. While the measure provides a timely process for compensation, claimants retain the option of rejecting an offer and pursuing their own compensation.

Your Committees further find that securitization could help reduce debt related to wildfire exposures. Securitization allows for the issuance of debt secured by a non-by-passable charge to the customer's bill, which allows the electric utility to fully recover its costs at a lower interest rate for customers. This measure will serve the public interest by establishing a mechanism to provide efficient compensation for property damage resulting from a future catastrophic wildfire allegedly caused by a regulated utility, while also protecting the financial integrity of Hawaii's regulated utilities.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the Wildfire Recovery Fund is a trust fund;
- (2) Specifying that the Executive Director of the Wildfire Recovery Fund may establish the investment policies of the fund;
- (3) Clarifying that, of the \$505,000,000 in initial contributions funded by shareholders of investor-owned electric utilities, \$5,000,000 is to be used for:
 - (A) Funding the salaries of the Executive Director and other personnel within the Wildfire Recovery Fund; and
 - (B) Contracting consultants to assist the Public Utilities Commission with determining whether a contributor acted prudently,
 and that any remaining balance of the \$5,000,000 in 2035 is to be transferred to the Wildfire Recovery Fund;
- (4) Specifying that investment earnings associated with payments made to the Wildfire Recovery Fund that were recovered in regulated rates from customers shall be annually refunded to the customers in the form of a credit on their ratepayer accounts;
- (5) Specifying that claimants have no less than four years from the covered catastrophic wildfire to file a claim, and the Executive Director may establish a deadline beyond the four year-period for filing a claim;
- (6) Clarifying that the circuit court's authority to equitably apply the aggregate liability limit applies to all civil claims for qualifying damages;
- (7) Specifying that the limitation on claims relating to indemnity or contribution only applies to agreements entered into on or after the operation date;

- (8) Authorizing the Public Utilities Commission, as a condition of a financing order, to prohibit any increase in compensation, including any bonuses, for the electric utility's officers for a period of time determined by the Commission, with any increase in violation of that condition to be seized and deposited into the Wildfire Recovery Fund; and
- (9) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Consumer Protection & Commerce and Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 982, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it be referred to your Committee on Finance, in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 982, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Consumer Protection & Commerce: Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs: Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Cochran, Hashem, Garcia, Shimizu).

SCRep. 777 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 226

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit a person from installing, mounting, adhering, affixing, or using any sun screening device in conjunction with the glazing material of a motor vehicle with mirrored, metallic, red, yellow, amber, or blue tint;
- (2) Require all drivers and passengers of motor vehicles with applied tint to roll down their windows when stopped by a law enforcement officer at a traffic stop;
- (3) Lower the minimum light transmittance levels for sun screening devices on certain motor vehicles;
- (4) Exempt side windows to the rear of the driver and rear windows on sedans from sun screening device requirements; and
- (5) Increase the minimum and maximum fines for violating sun screening device requirements.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i County Police Department; Honolulu Police Department; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that window tinting can improve a vehicle's energy efficiency by reducing the amount of heat that enters the vehicle, which in turn reduces the need for excessive air conditioning. However, your Committee finds that window tinting poses a safety risk to law enforcement officers, as window tinting compromises the officer's ability to see within the vehicle. This measure takes a dual approach by allowing tinting with lower light transmittance levels while simultaneously requiring persons to roll down their windows when stopped by a law enforcement officer.

Your Committee notes that concerns were raised during the public hearing that the measure is ambiguous with respect to when persons are required to fully roll down their windows during traffic stops. Your Committee further notes that there are concerns on determining the appropriate penalty for a person's failure to fully roll down their window. Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, should it deliberate on this measure, to give due consideration to these issues.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that drivers and passengers of motor vehicles with applied tint shall fully roll down their windows when stopped by a law enforcement officer at a traffic stop; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 226, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 226, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Matayoshi, Lowen, Tam).

SCRep. 778 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 818

The purpose of this measure is to revitalize Waiakea Peninsula by:

- (1) Establishing the Waiakea Peninsula Community Development District within the Hawaii Community Development Authority;
- (2) Specifying the powers and duties of the Hawaii Community Development Authority as it relates to the new development district; and
- (3) Establishing the Waiakea Community Development District Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Community Development Authority; two members of the Hawai'i County Council; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Department of the Attorney General; and Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that this measure would help revitalize the Waiakea peninsula, which forms part of the premier tourism district of the east side of Hawaii Island. Many of the properties in the Waiakea peninsula are in disrepair or obsolete. Your Committee further finds that the establishment of a community development district in the Hilo area will permit the Hawaii Community Development Authority to conduct long-range planning for the district and facilitate development through community input and adoption of proper zoning rules.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that revenues, income, and receipts derived from leases are paid to the agency that owns or manages the property;
- (2) Including the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources for purposes of the determining quorum and majority for matters affecting the Waiakea Peninsula Community Development District by the Hawaii Community Development Authority; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 818, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 818, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 779 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 750

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Health to conduct a statewide needs assessment to determine what will be needed to reduce waste generation, increase reuse, improve recycling collection services, and expand local processing of materials through an extended producer responsibility program for packaging materials and paper products;
- (2) Establish an advisory council to review the draft needs assessment and propose recommendations;
- (3) Require the Department of Health to hold a public hearing on the draft needs assessment and submit the needs assessment to the Legislature by December 31, 2028; and
- (4) Appropriate funds for the needs assessment.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Hawaii Environmental Change Agents Solid Waste Reduction Taskforce; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the American Forest & Paper Association and Hawaii Food Industry Association.

Your Committee finds that much of the plastic waste that is disposed of in landfills results in the release of methane and carbon dioxide. According to the most recent Inventory Report developed by the Environmental Protection Agency, United States landfills released an estimated 122,600,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent of methane into the atmosphere in 2021. This represents 16.9 percent of the total anthropogenic methane emissions across all sectors in the country. Your Committee further finds that materials consumption contributes directly to climate change because it requires energy to mine, extract, harvest, process, and transport raw materials and more energy to manufacture, transport, and dispose of waste products. This measure will help Hawaii address the full impact of materials on the State's communities and set out a transformative vision for its waste management system.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying authorized uses of the Deposit Beverage Container Deposit Special Fund to include evaluating and promoting recyclable market development activities;
- (2) Amending the appropriation by:
 - (A) Changing the means of financing from general funds to the Deposit Beverage Container Deposit Special Fund;
 - (B) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount for only the fiscal year of 2025-2026; and
 - (C) Specifying when the appropriation shall lapse;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 750, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 750, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 780 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 339

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Public Utilities Commission to consider or impose certain conditions of approval on any order approving, in whole or in part, an application for the proposed acquisition, merger, or consolidation of an electric utility company by an acquiring entity;
- (2) Prohibit acquiring entities from proposing or supporting amendments that may have a material adverse effect on renewable portfolio standards or the existing performance-based regulation framework or terminating any existing and valid power purchase agreement between the electric utility company and an independent power producer, with certain conditions;
- (3) Establish a process to ensure that when an electric utility is subject to an application for a proposed acquisition, merger, or consolidation by a potential acquiring entity that is an investor-owned utility and seeks approval of the application from the Public Utilities Commission, the electric utility shall demonstrate that it solicited bids from potential acquiring entities that operate under non-investor-owned utilities ownership models; and
- (4) Require the electric utility to submit acceptable bids concurrently with an application by a potential acquiring entity that is an investor-owned utility.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260 and Ulupono Initiative. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Public Utilities Commission; and Life of the Land.

Your Committee finds that the State has established several goals to transition the State from fossil fuels to renewable energy, including the renewable portfolio standards and performance-based regulation frameworks. However, the potential for mergers or acquisitions involving investor-owned utilities poses a risk of backsliding or undermining these advancements to the detriment of utility customers. This measure allows the Public Utilities Commission to impose conditions on an acquiring entity with respect to the goals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the conditions that prohibited an acquiring entity, through December 31, 2040, from proposing or supporting any change or amendment that may have a material adverse effect on existing renewable portfolio standards;
- (2) Removing the conditions that prohibited an acquiring entity from proposing or supporting the termination of any existing performance-based regulation framework for the electric utility or making changes or amendments that may have a material adverse effect on such framework;
- (3) Authorizing the issuance of reimbursable general obligation bonds in the sum of \$1,000,000,000 for the acquisition of Hawaiian Electric Industries to convert it to a publicly owned utility;

- (4) Authorizing the establishment of a non-bypassable electric utility conversion charge, collections of which are to be deposited into the newly established Electric Utility Conversion Special Fund and used to recover the debt service on the reimbursable general obligation bonds;
- (5) Appropriate funds out of Electric Utility Conversion Special Fund to acquire Hawaiian Electric Industries and convert it to a publicly owned utility and to reimburse the state general fund for payment of debt service on the reimbursable general obligation bonds; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 339, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 339, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 781 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 338

The purpose of this measure is to specify that adjustments required to compensate for certain unavoidable increases in financing costs, if proven by a producer of nonfossil fuel generated electricity by clear and convincing evidence, are mechanisms for reasonable and appropriate incremental adjustments that the Public Utilities Commission may include in the rate payable to the producer.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Energy Office; Public Utilities Commission; Hawaii Clean Power Alliance; Longroad Energy; AES Hawai'i; and Ameresco. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Hawaiian Electric.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's energy project developers are facing a dynamic situation regarding interest rates, exacerbated by the 2023 Maui wildfires. The relatively long project development, approval, and construction timelines of energy projects also contribute to difficulty in maintaining static terms for financing. This measure will support the ability of independent power producers to successfully finance their projects and enter into agreements with Hawaii's electric utilities, which will ensure the financial viability of renewable energy projects and help the State achieve its renewable energy goals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 338, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 782 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 1467

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Strengthen Hawaii Homes Program within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to administer grants to retrofit residential properties to improve their resilience to disasters and reduce potential insurance liabilities; and
- (2) Establish the Strengthen Hawaii Homes Program Special Fund and appropriate funds out of the special fund for the Strengthen Hawaii Homes Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency; Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Hawai'i Climate Advisory Team; Hawai'i Workforce Funders Collaborative; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; and AARP Hawai'i. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and Office of Information Practices.

Your Committee finds that most homes in the State were built before hurricane protections were required and are highly vulnerable to wind and water damage. The lack of wind-resistant homes is one of Hawaii's greatest vulnerabilities when it comes to hurricanes, which are expected to become more frequent and severe due to climate change. Your Committee further finds that retrofitting homes for greater wind resilience and rising flood waters can materially increase the safety of residents and reduce expected losses in the event of a hurricane or other natural disaster. This measure therefore establishes a grant program to help Hawaii residents improve the resilience of their homes in the event of a natural disaster, which will help mitigate property losses, save lives, and minimize disruption and displacement in the State's communities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language making documents, materials, and other information submitted to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism in support of a grant application exempt from disclosure, subpoena, discovery, or admissibility as evidence in a private civil action;
- (2) Deleting the Strengthen Hawaii Homes Program Special Fund and changing the associated appropriation into an unspecified appropriation from general funds; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider whether funds dispersed under the Strengthen Homes Hawaii Program should be provided as grants or low-interest loans.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1467, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1467, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 783 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 490

The purpose of this measure is to require the Insurance Commissioner to:

- (1) Develop comprehensive standards and requirements for condominium associations, developers, and groups of condominium associations and developers, to obtain property insurance through self-insurance and mutual insurance;
- (2) Examine and evaluate the feasibility of implementing guaranteed buyback programs and investment-based protection funds for condominiums; and
- (3) Submit findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2026.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committee finds that the availability of condominium building master insurance policy and unit owner insurance policy options within the condominium insurance marketplace was shrinking, even before the August 2023 Maui wildfire event. For condominium building master insurance policies, insurers have increased deductible amounts from what used to be between \$10,000 to \$25,000 per unit, per occurrence, to as much as \$250,000. Furthermore, insurance premiums for hurricane insurance policies have recently risen so high that three hundred seventy-five to three hundred ninety buildings have opted to renew their hurricane insurance policies with less than one hundred percent hurricane coverage. This measure is intended to have the Insurance Commissioner evaluate available alternatives to address this crisis.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that required the Insurance Commissioner to:
 - (A) Develop comprehensive standards and requirements for condominium associations and developers to obtain property insurance; and
 - (B) Examine and evaluate the feasibility of implementing guaranteed buyback programs and investment-based protection funds for condominiums;
- (2) Specifying that the Insurance Commissioner is required to study the feasibility of the mutual insurance model for condominium associations, including condominium associations in the State joining mutual insurance companies that are located in another state of the United States;
- (3) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 490, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 490, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Matayoshi, Lowen, Tam).

SCRep. 784 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 97

The purpose of this measure is to establish a new regulatory framework for the sale of travel insurance in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Crum & Forster; AGA Service Company; United States Travel Insurance Association; and American Property Casualty Insurance Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committee finds that travel insurance is a type of insurance for risk associated with traveling, such as loss of luggage, trip cancellation, and delays. Travel insurance gives consumers peace of mind when booking a trip well in advance of departure by enabling travelers to be reimbursed for part of or all their expenses should an undesirable event occur that prompts cancellation or interruption of their trip.

Your Committee further finds that a comprehensive and uniform regulatory regime for the sale of travel insurance will greatly benefit consumers by creating a level playing field for the travel insurance market and establishing standard protections and requirements for the sale of travel insurance. Your Committee also finds that this measure closely tracks the Travel Insurance Model Act adopted by the National Council of Insurance Legislators and National Association of Insurance Commissioners and which, as of January 2024, has been adopted by thirty-five states. This measure is intended to clarify and standardize the application of the State's existing insurance laws to the unique aspects of travel insurance.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting from the definition of "eligible group" any automobile or truck rental or leasing company covering a group of individuals;
- (2) Specifying that licensed managing general agents and licensed insurance producers with property and casualty lines of authority are authorized to sell travel insurance;
- (3) Clarifying that persons who direct or control a limited lines travel insurance producer's insurance operations shall comply with the fingerprinting requirements applicable to insurance producers in the resident state of the limited lines travel insurance producer;
- (4) Deleting language that specified the provisions of this measure control over other provisions of the Insurance Code if it conflicted with the provisions of the Insurance Code relating to unfair methods of competition and unfair and deceptive acts and practices;
- (5) Replacing language that specified that coverage for sickness, accident, disability, or death occurring during travel, or incidental limited property and casualty benefits, may be filed under accident and health line of insurance or inland marine line of insurance, with language that specifies repatriation of remains shall be filed under an accident and health or sickness line of insurance; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 97, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 97, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Matayoshi, Lowen, Tam).

SCRep. 785 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 534

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the sale of processed ahi in retail establishments in the State without a label that states the country where the ahi was landed.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Longline Association; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Fishing Tales with Mike Sakamoto; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; and ten individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that the State is known for its high-quality ahi, which are caught under strict fishery management standards. However, ahi poke sold at retail establishments is dominated by previously frozen, carbon monoxide treated fish that is imported from foreign sources. This causes confusion to the

consumer, who, as a result of deceptive advertising tactics such as "freshly made," and "locally prepared," are misled into believing the product is fresh or locally caught. This measure provides a mechanism by which consumers may be assured of the ahi's origin.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Moving the provisions of this measure under the enforcement purview of the Department of the Attorney General and the Office of Consumer Protection;
- (2) Specifying that the labeling requirements apply to any raw ahi product that is an ingredient in a processed food item, not to processed ahi;
- (3) Clarifying that the retail establishments subject to this labeling requirement are establishments that:
 - (A) Are licensed under the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act of 1930; and
 - (B) Purchase over \$230,000 of fresh or frozen produce per calendar year; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 534, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 534, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 786 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 1291

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Extend the offense of false labeling of Hawaii-grown coffee to include roasted coffee; and
- (2) Impose a mandatory \$10,000 fine for each separate offense of false labeling of Hawaii-grown roasted coffee.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Heavenly Hawaiian Farms; Synergistic Hawai'i Agriculture Council; Hawaii Coffee Growers Association; Hawaii Coffee Association; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Smithfarms; Ohana Martin Farms; Kona Coffee Farmers Association; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Huahua Farm; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that fraudulent representations as to a coffee's geographic origin diminish the value of that geographic identifier by harming its reputation. Your Committee further finds that the existing criminal offense of false labeling of Hawaii-grown coffee only applies to green coffee, cherry coffee, or parchment coffee. This measure would expand that offense to roasted coffee and further protect the geographic identifier of Hawaii-grown coffee.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language establishing a mandatory fine for anyone convicted of false labeling of Hawaii-grown coffee; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1291, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1291, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Matayoshi, Lowen, Tam).

SCRep. 787 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 420

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify the statute of repose to make it clear that it applies to contract, tort, and statutory claims, fraudulent concealment is not a defense with respect to the repose period, and require a violation of a building code to be material to be actionable;
- (2) Clarify the required contents of a notice of claim of construction defect served on a contractor;
- (3) Amend the process and time frame for a claimant to accept a contractor's offer to settle or inspect and authorize the contractor to proceed with repairs;
- (4) Limit the amount a claimant can recover if the claimant rejects a contractor's reasonable proposal for inspection or a reasonable offer to remedy; and
- (5) Clarify the consequences of rejecting an offer of settlement.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 3; Hawai'i Regional Council of Carpenters; General Contractors Association of Hawaii; Holomua Collaborative; Hawaii Laborers & Employers Cooperation and Education Trust; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Mutual Housing Association of Hawai'i, Inc.; Malachi Cleaning, Inc.; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; R. M. Towill Corporation; Paradigm Construction LLC; A-Plus Seamless Rain Gutters, Inc.; Z Contractors Inc.; KY International Inc.; Stanford Carr Development, LLC; Newport Pacific Cabinets, Inc.; Hawaii Operating Engineers Industry Stabilization Fund Political Action Committee; Building Industry Association of Hawaii; Hawai'i YIMBY; Sinclair Drywall, Inc.; Island Flooring; Castle & Cooke Homes Hawaii, Inc.; Tru-Door Hawaii; Vinyl Tech and Masonry, Inc.; Hawaii Fence Builders; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; Gentry Homes, Ltd.; Housing Hawai'i's Future; D.R. Horton Hawaii; Commercial Sheetmetal Co., Inc.; Haseko Development, Inc.; Pacific Resource Partnership; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from LippSmith LLP; Palehua Townhouse Association; Kasdan Turner Thomson Booth, LLC; AARP Hawai'i; and six individuals.

Your Committee finds that the lack of affordable housing in Hawaii has led to a crisis of increasing homelessness and migration of residents to the continental United States. Your Committee further finds the rising costs of insurance for developers and improvers of real property have contributed to the increased cost of housing and are a direct result of litigation for construction defects. This measure will deter broad and frivolous claims by requiring evidence of the defect and limiting recovery if an offer is unreasonably rejected.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that barred the defense of fraudulent concealment;
- (2) Specifying that, if a plaintiff invokes the doctrine of fraudulent concealment to toll the limitation and the plaintiff fails to plead with particularity the claim of fraudulent concealment, then the plaintiff is liable for the costs incurred by the defendant, including attorneys' fees and costs directly related to responding to the claim; and

(3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 420, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 420, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, 2 (Iwamoto, Pierick). Excused, 3 (Matayoshi, Lowen, Tam).

SCRep. 788 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 755

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) By January 1, 2028, require the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to establish and administer a Family and Medical Leave Program and begin collecting payroll contributions to finance payment of benefits; and
- (2) By January 1, 2029, require the Department to start receiving claims and paying benefits under the Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging; Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Pride at Work – Hawai'i; Healthy Eating Active Living Coalition; Indivisible Hawaii; Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition; Aloha United Way; ALICE Initiative; Early Childhood Action Strategy; AARP Hawai'i; Imua Alliance; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; AAUW of Hawaii; Young Democrats of Hawai'i; Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission; Hawai'i Section of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; ACLU of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations; AlohaCare; Leukemia & Lymphoma Society; Hawai'i Women Lawyers; Papa Ola Lokahi; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO; Hawai'i Restaurant Association; Retail Merchants of Hawaii; Tiki's Grill & Bar; Hawaii Energy Marketers Association; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; NFIB Hawaii Chapter; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; IL Gelato Hawaii; Society of Human Resource Management – Hawaii; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Gytaku Restaurants; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development; Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Hawaii Food Industry Association; and Kapolei Chamber of Commerce.

Your Committee finds that the United States is the only developed country that does not provide national paid family leave. Your Committee further finds that thirteen states and the District of Columbia have passed paid family leave laws, and the states with paid family leave have seen significant health, social, and economic benefits. Many of the State's working families do not have adequate amounts of paid leave, which causes financial hardship and increased dependency on public assistance during times of illness or caregiving. This measure will provide working families with family and medical leave benefits, which can help workers retain employment while caring for family and help businesses retain key employees and remain competitive.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that repealed the definitions of "child," "course of conduct," and "electronic communications" for purposes of laws relating to reasonable accommodations in the workplace for an employee who is a victim of domestic or sexual violence; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 755, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 755, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 1 (Kong). Excused, 3 (Matayoshi, Lowen, Tam).

SCRep. 789 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1496

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the position of Ka Papahana Kaiapuni program complex area superintendent;
- (2) Require that at least one at-large member of the Board of Education be a Hawaiian educator, practitioner, or scholar of Hawaiian studies or the Hawaiian language;
- (3) Clarify the purpose and objective of the Hawaiian Language Medium Education Program; and
- (4) Appropriate funds for the establishment of:
 - (A) The Ka Papahana Kaiapuni program complex area superintendent; and
 - (B) A secretary position to support the Ka Papahana Kaiapuni program complex area superintendent.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; 'Aha Pūnana Leo; Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Maui ma Pa'ia; Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau Laboratory Public Charter School; Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīkalanī'ōpu'u Iki Laboratory Public Charter School; 'Aha Kauleo; Nā Leo Kāko'o o Maui, Inc.; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Board of Education.

Your Committee finds that this measure will strengthen the State's commitment to 'Ōlelo Hawaii as an official language of the State and ensure the success of the Ka Papahana Kaiapuni education program.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that at least one at-large member of the board should be a proficient Hawaiian speaking educator, practitioner, or scholar of Hawaiian studies or the Hawaiian language;
- (2) Clarifying that the Ka Papahana Kaiapuni program complex area superintendent should be proficient in speaking Hawaiian; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1496, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1496, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 790 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1376

The purpose of this measure is to require the Director of Corrections and Rehabilitation to:

- (1) Beginning July 1, 2028, reduce the number of committed felons incarcerated at private, out-of-state correctional institutions by twenty-five percent;
- (2) Beginning July 1, 2030, reduce the number of committed felons incarcerated at private, out-of-state correctional institutions by fifty percent; and
- (3) Submit annual reports to the Legislature on its actions and progress to meet the requirements of this measure.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; ACLU of Hawai'i; Imua Alliance; Community Alliance on Prisons; Hawai'i Friends of Restorative Justice; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

Your Committee finds that the gradual reduction of reliance on private, out-of-state prisons will increase accountability, provide greater control over correctional practices, and keep inmates close their families and communities, which will improve their post-release outcomes.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the term "private, out-of-state correctional institutions" includes correctional institutions outside the State operated for profit; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1376, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1376, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 791 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1308

The purpose of this measure is to allow for the regulation of sports wagering by the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and to specify that sports wagering and fantasy sports contests do not constitute gambling.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from BetMGM; DraftKings; Sports Betting Alliance; and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of the Attorney General; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; Hawaii Family Forum; Boyd Gaming; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Department of Budget and Finance; Office of Information Practices; and National Council on Problem Gambling.

Your Committee finds that establishing a legal framework for sports betting in the State can offer several potential benefits, both economically and socially. One key advantage is the reduction of illegal gambling and associated criminal activities, such as illegal game rooms and money laundering. Your Committee believes that offering a legitimate, safe, regulated alternative for sports betting may curb the illegal gambling network in the State, thereby improving public safety overall.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the definition of "sports wagering supplier";
- (2) Requiring the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to adopt rules to effectuate the purposes of regulated sports wagering;
- (3) Clarifying when the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs may deny a license, reprimand any licensee, or suspend or revoke a license;
- (4) Clarifying the requirements and procedures related to temporary sports wagering operator and sports wagering supplier licenses;
- (5) Amending the penalties for unlicensed sports wagering;
- (6) Specifically authorizing the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to conduct criminal history record checks on applicants and licensees for regulated sports wagering; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider and address the comments raised by the Department of Taxation relating to the collection and enforcement of tax revenues and implementation date of this measure.

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. 1308, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1308, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 6; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Hashem). Noes, 4 (Perruso, Takayama, Garcia, Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 792 Health on H.B. No. 1334

The purpose of this measure is to exempt the donation of wild game, including wild game meat products, to charitable, religious, or nonprofit organizations for the purpose of feeding needy individuals from certain laws regarding the inspection and transportation of meat.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Agriculture; one member of the Maui County Council; Maui Wild Game Management to Feed the Hungry; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Maui Food Bank; Hawai'i FoodBank; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Maui Adaptation Project; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Ulupalakua Ranch; and nine individuals.

Your Committee finds that food security is a growing crisis in Hawaii, with nearly one in three households struggling to access adequate food. Your Committee further finds that wild game, including the invasive axis deer, presents a nutritious, sustainable, and high-protein source of food that can be used to expand food access for needy individuals. Your Committee believes that aligning the State's food inspection laws with the Federal Meat Inspection Act,

which exempts wild game meat from mandatory federal inspection when donated to charitable organizations, will significantly increase food access to those in need.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1334, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1334, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 793 Health on H.B. No. 1431

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an Oral Health Task Force to review information and data on the status of oral health in the State and make recommendations to improve the State's oral health infrastructure; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to help facilitate the work of the oral health task force.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; State Health Planning and Development Agency; University of Hawai'i System; Hawaii Dental Association; AlohaCare; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services Office of Information Practices.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's oral health program is not meeting the needs of its residents. Your Committee further finds that although the Department of Health operates five small dental clinics that serve individuals who are elderly, blind, intellectually or developmentally disabled, or suffering from a mental illness, all five clinics are located in the City and County of Honolulu, making access to oral health care more difficult for individuals in rural areas and on the neighbor islands. Your Committee believes that establishing an Oral Health Task Force, as proposed by this measure, will provide the State with valuable insight, including identifying key elements and additional staff resources that are necessary to rebuild Hawaii's oral health infrastructure.

Your Committee notes testimony received from the Department of Health which stated that a permanent full-time equivalent position may be unnecessary as the Governor's executive budget includes a request to reestablish the Department of Health's Oral Health Program, which would include establishing two permanent full-time equivalent positions.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriations to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$200,000 for the Family Health Services Division of the Department of Health to contract with a consultant to facilitate the work of the Oral Health Task Force and an appropriation amount of \$79,872 to establish one permanent full-time equivalent Program Specialist V position, if the position is needed.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1431, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1431, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 794 Health/Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 1194

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Make midwife regulatory laws permanent;
- (2) Clarify the scope of practice of midwifery and establish licensure requirements for certified midwives and certified professional midwives, including continuing education requirements;
- (3) Grant prescriptive authority to certified midwives and amend the list of approved legend drugs that may be administered;
- (4) Establish peer review and data submission requirements;
- (5) Clarify exemptions from licensure and grounds for refusal to renew, reinstate, or restore licenses; and
- (6) Clarify medical record availability and retention requirements for the purposes of medical torts.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from Zen Den Midwifery; Hawaii Medical Association; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Midwives Alliance of Hawai'i; American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists – Hawai'i Section; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Banyan Birth; Uncle Bens LLC; Hawaii Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; and numerous individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from one member of the Maui County Council; Hawai'i Home Birth Collective; Hawai'i Affiliate of the American College of Nurse-Midwives; Libertarian Party of Hawaii; More Than Maternity LLC; Malama Na Pua o Haumea; 'Ōhi'a Midwifery & Wellness Midwives; Birth Believers; Center for Reproductive Rights; Aoki Birthing Care; SHINE Sisterhood Initiative; Pacific Birth Collective; North American Registry of Midwives; Pihana ka 'Ikena; Lāhainā Strong; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Physio Wellness LLC; Maui Midwifery; Chamber of Sustainable Commerce; Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation; ACLU Hawai'i; Mothering Justice; Hale Kealaula, LLC; and numerous individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Hawai'i State Center for Nursing; Papa Ola Lokahi; and American Society of Radiologic Technologists.

Your Committees find that midwives are maternal health care providers whose services play a critical role in maternal health outcomes, particularly among pregnant individuals who wish to have a home birth. Your Committees further find that pregnancy and childbirth create an inherent risk to the health, safety, and welfare of the birthing parent and the newborn.

Your Committees also find that, per the Hawaii Regulatory Licensing Reform Act, the State is required to regulate professions or vocations where the health, safety, or welfare of the consumer may be jeopardized by the nature of the service offered by the provider. Recognizing the potential for harm to public health and safety posed by the unregulated practice of midwifery, the Legislature passed Act 32, Session Laws of Hawaii 2019, which established a regulatory

framework for the practice of midwifery that was subsequently codified as chapter 457J, Hawaii Revised Statutes. These regulations are set to sunset on June 30, 2025, unless the Legislature takes action to continue the regulation of midwives.

Your Committees additionally find that, as part of its sunset analysis, and reported in Auditor's Summary Report No. 25-03 (2025), the Auditor found that the practice of midwifery posed a clear and significant potential harm to the health and safety of the public and that the State's policies regarding the regulation of certain types of professions support the continued regulation of midwives. Accordingly, your Committees believe that the continued regulation of the practice of midwifery is necessary to protect the health and safety of expectant parents and newborns in Hawaii.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding a preamble;
- (2) Clarifying the scope of practice of midwifery as a certified midwife and as a certified professional midwife;
- (3) Clarifying that transfer of care protocols for midwives include transferring a client to an appropriate health care facility to address the client's health care needs if the midwife determines that a client requires care outside of the midwife's scope of practice;
- (4) Clarifying the types of cases that are subject to peer review;
- (5) Deleting language requiring the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to verify compliance with the peer review and data collection requirements established by this measure beginning June 30, 2029;
- (6) Deleting language requiring practitioners acting as traditional Hawaiian healers engaged in traditional practices to provide a disclosure form to their clients;
- (7) Adding a definition for "accredited birth facility";
- (8) Deleting the definition for "community birth";
- (9) Deleting language specifying the types of traditional Hawaiian healing practices that do not fall under the definition of "practice of midwifery";
- (10) Restoring existing statutory language that states the licensure requirements for midwives shall not apply to Certified Nurse Midwives and persons who are licensed and performing work within the scope of practice or duties of the person's profession that overlaps with the practice of midwifery;
- (11) Clarifying that persons providing traditional Hawaiian healing practices as either a traditional Hawaiian healer under Article XII, Section 7 of the Hawaii State Constitution or a person recognized as a traditional Hawaiian healer by any kupuna council convened by Papa Ola Lokahi are exempt from the requirements of chapter 457J, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (12) Requiring a current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and neonatal resuscitation for an adult and infant/child that includes a hands-on skill component as a requirement for initial licensure and license renewal;
- (13) Clarifying that a midwifery educational program for licensure of a certified professional midwife may be accredited by either the Midwifery Education Accreditation Council or another nationally recognized accrediting agency approved by the United States Department of Education;
- (14) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (15) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Health and Consumer Protection & Commerce that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1194, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1194, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Health: Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Amato, Olds). Noes, 2 (Alcos, Garcia). Excused, none.

Consumer Protection & Commerce: Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Kong). Noes, 1 (Iwamoto). Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 795 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 132

The purpose of this measure is to amend Act 62, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, to expand the Department of the Attorney General pilot project for a state-initiated expungement process of arrest records concerning promoting a detrimental drug in the third degree to include the possession of any schedule V substance in any amount.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission; Office of the Public Defender; Community Alliance on Prisons; Aloha Green Apothecary; Last Prisoner Project; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; ACLU of Hawai'i; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that expanding eligibility for expungement under the pilot project will provide greater relief for individuals arrested for possessing small amounts of schedule V substances. This will promote fairness, reduce the stigma associated with certain criminal records, and improve individuals' chances of reintegration into society.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making additional conforming amendments to Act 62, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, to include the possession of any schedule V substance in any amount under the pilot project; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 132, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 132, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 796 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 145

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Hawaii Criminal Justice Data Center to transmit all expungement orders to the Judiciary to effectuate the purposes of Act 159, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Office of the Public Defender; Community Alliance on Prisons; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; ACLU of Hawai‘i; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary.

Your Committee finds that Act 159, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023 (Act 159), mandates the automatic sealing or removal of arrest or case information from the Judiciary's publicly accessible databases for individuals with expungement orders, effective by July 1, 2025. However, your Committee finds that the court is currently unable to implement Act 159 because the Hawaii Criminal Justice Data Center lacks the legal authority to release the expungement orders to the Judiciary. This measure would enable the Criminal Justice Data Center and Judiciary to fulfill the mandate under Act 159.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the expungement orders transmitted by the Criminal Justice Data Center to the Judiciary must have a court case number;
- (2) Clarifying the circumstances under which the Judiciary must seal or otherwise remove judiciary files and other information pertaining to the applicable arrest or case of any person for whom an expungement order has been entered and transmitted to the court; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 145, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 145, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 797 Education on H.B. No. 622

The purpose of this measure is to change the due date of the Department of Education's annual computer science legislative report from June 30 to twenty days prior to the start of each regular session of the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Education is responsible for submitting an annual computer science legislative report every year by June 30th. However, the June 30th reporting due date is too tight of a submission time to include quarter four computer science data from schools. This measure will delay the due date for the Department of Education's computer science legislative report to the end of the calendar year to allow the Department sufficient time to provide more data and a more complete computer science report to the Legislature and public.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 622, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 622, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

SCRep. 798 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 111

The purpose of this measure is to support survivors of sexual exploitation and sex trafficking by:

- (1) Authorizing civil claims to be made against a person, business, business owner, or business operator that profits from sexual exploitation or sex trafficking; and
- (2) Extending the statute of limitations for civil claims related to sexual exploitation or sex trafficking to ten years.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Imua Alliance and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that this measure will provide victims of sexual exploitation or sex trafficking with an avenue for recourse and hold accountable those businesses, business owners, and business operators that profit from sexual exploitation or sex trafficking.

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

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Cochran, Kahaloa, Garcia, Shimizu).

SCRep. 799 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1175

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal language specifying that an appeal from the Tax Appeal Court be filed with the Tax Appeal Court; and
- (2) Allow an appeal from the Tax Appeal Court to be filed within thirty days of entry of a final judgment.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that existing law relating to the appeal procedures by the Tax Appeal Court is outdated and no longer aligns with the appeal procedures adopted by the Judiciary, creating inconsistencies in the tax appeal process. Your Committee further finds that *Alford v. City and County of Honolulu*, 109 Hawaii 14, 122 P.3d 809 (2005), raised concerns about appellate jurisdiction when a dispositive order is later merged into a final judgement, potentially leading to procedural confusion regarding the timing of appeals. This measure resolves these issues by updating statutory provisions to conform with judicial procedures.

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. 1175 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Cochran, Kahaloa, Garcia, Shimizu).

SCRep. 800 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 998

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.

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.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 801 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 995

The purpose of this measure is to amend the annual reporting requirements imposed on the Department of the Attorney General and the chief of police of each county regarding licenses to carry firearms.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Honolulu Police Department; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from four individuals.

Your Committee finds that the statutory deadlines for reporting firearm license data place undue constraints on the Department of the Attorney General and county police departments. Under existing law, the Department of the Attorney General must publish its annual report by April 1, but county police departments are required to submit their data by February 1, limiting the time available for aggregation and review. This measure extends the county police departments' reporting deadline to March 31 and removes the April 1 publication deadline, ensuring more accurate and comprehensive reporting and allowing the Department to complete its responsibilities within existing resources.

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

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 802 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 131

The purpose of this measure is to allow agencies to disclose government records to researchers for certain research purposes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Office of Information Practices; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Public First Law Center; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Hawai'i Data Collaborative; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the University of Hawai'i System and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that under existing law, the Office of Information Practices is required to adopt rules setting forth uniform standards for disclosure of records for research purposes. However, there is no statutory authorization of research requests for the Office of Information Practices to implement by means of rules. The substantive law instead sets a general "any person" standard for record disclosure, which prohibits an agency from disclosing a record to some members of the public but withhold it from others. This measure provides clarity in the situation in which agencies may disclose information to researchers without waiving their ability to withhold the information from the general public.

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

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Hashem, Todd).

SCRep. 803 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 369

The purpose of this measure is to require excess contributions of more than \$100 in cash, in the aggregate, from a single person during an election period to a candidate, candidate committee, or noncandidate committee to escheat to the Hawaii Election Campaign Fund if not returned to the contributor within thirty days.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Campaign Spending Commission.

Your Committee finds that candidates, candidate committees, and noncandidate committees are prohibited from accepting a contribution of more than \$100 in cash, in aggregate, from a single person during each election period. This measure ensures that contributions in excess of \$100 are returned to the contributor within thirty days and, if not returned within thirty days, are deposited into the Hawaii Election Campaign Fund.

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

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 804 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 386

The purpose of this measure is to conform fentanyl to the possession offense thresholds for methamphetamine, heroin, morphine, and cocaine.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Honolulu Police Department; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; and Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Hawai'i.

Your Committee finds that in recent years, fentanyl has emerged as a serious public health threat and law enforcement challenge. In 2022, synthetic opioids, primarily illicit fentanyl, represented more than two-thirds of drug overdose deaths nationwide. The State has not been immune to this threat as there have

been incidents throughout the State, including: the seizure of enough fentanyl in Hawaii County in 2024 to kill one-fifth of the State's population; the conviction of a Maui person for selling fentanyl-laced pills that caused an overdose death; and first responders being dispatched to Thomas Square on Oahu five times in one month for reported fentanyl overdoses. This measure conforms the criminal penalties for possession of fentanyl to that of other common street drugs, such as methamphetamine, heroin, and cocaine.

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

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Belatti, Cochran).

SCRep. 805 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 408

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Extend the deadline to register to vote by mail from thirty to ten days before a primary or general election; and
- (2) Repeal obsolete language regarding permanent absentee ballots.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Elections; Elections Division of the Office of the County Clerk of the County of Kauai; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Chamber of Sustainable Commerce; Hawai'i Workers Center; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State should ensure that the electoral process is accessible to all and encourages widespread participation. This measure makes the electoral process more accessible by extending the deadline to register to vote by mail from thirty to ten days before a primary or general election.

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

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 806 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 411

The purpose of this measure is to establish uniform provisions for the assessment of certain administrative penalties under the State Ethics Code and Lobbyist Law.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Ethics Commission.

Your Committee finds that the existing enforcement process for the Hawai'i State Ethics Commission entails the respondent to respond to a charge multiple times, which extends the process, sometimes lasting five to six months. For matters in which the facts and law are not in question, an expedited process may reduce the burden on respondents and minimize unnecessary waste of time and resources and that the timely resolution of ethics and lobbying cases before the Hawai'i State Ethics Commission enhances public trust and transparency. This measure establishes an expedited enforcement process to address violations of the ethics and lobbying laws.

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

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 807 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 103

The purpose of this measure is to change the age for which individuals are eligible for life without parole sentences from eighteen years of age or older to twenty-one years of age or older.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender and Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i Kailua. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu and one individual.

Your Committee finds that juveniles are psychologically and developmentally different from adults and these differences should be recognized by the legal system. Juveniles are extremely vulnerable to negative environments and are easily influenced by crime-producing influences, such as physical, sexual, and psychological abuse by family members, other adults, and older juveniles. Juveniles are less capable than adults to consider the long-term impact of their actions, control their emotions and impulses, or evaluate risks and reward. Juveniles do not have control over their living situations and may experience traumas related to family homelessness, abandonment, exposure to adult drug abuse, and the realities of living in poverty that create environments susceptible to gang involvement or exposure to adult criminal behaviors. This measure raises the age to twenty-one years of age or older for which individuals are eligible for life without parole sentences.

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

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 2 (Garcia, Shimizu). Excused, 2 (Belatti, Cochran).

SCRep. 808 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 983

The purpose of this measure is to eliminate certain educational barriers for an applicant to be qualified for licensure as a certified public accountant.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Society of Certified Public Accountants; Taketa, Iwata, Hara & Associates, LLC; Hawaii Association of Public Accountants; Hawaii Association of Public Accountants – Oahu Chapter; Chantal Mentzer Inc.; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Board of Public Accountancy and Hong Consulting, LLC.

Your Committee finds that there is an increasing need for well-qualified certified public accountants in the State and nationwide as business and commerce continue to grow more complicated. However, there is a declining percentage of students in accounting courses that pursue certified public accountant licenses. This is in part due to the extensive educational requirements beyond a bachelor's degree for licensure, which require further time and money and can serve as

a barrier for many potential candidates for licensure. This measure opens an alternative pathway for a certified public accountant license by authorizing the completion of qualifying professional experience in the practice of accountancy in lieu of post-baccalaureate coursework.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the required minimum of eighteen semester hours of upper division or graduate level accounting or auditing subjects, as determined by rules adopted by the Board of Public Accountancy, are to be completed as part of the candidate's baccalaureate degree;
- (2) Clarifying that the professional experience that may be substituted for the additional thirty semester hours is twelve months of professional experience in the practice of public accountancy only, which shall be in addition to, and shall not be counted in, the other required professional experience;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 983, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 983, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 809 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 1050

The purpose of this measure is to change the filing dates of quarterly net solvency reports for mutual benefit societies, health maintenance organizations, and dental insurers so that the fourth quarter filing deadline falls on March 1 of the next year.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committee finds that, under existing law, fourth quarter net solvency reports for mutual benefit societies, health maintenance organizations, and dental insurers are due on February 14. However, the annual blank filings for these entities are due on March 1. By aligning the due dates for the fourth quarter net solvency reports with the due date for the annual blank filings, this measure reduces the compliance burden for these entities and allows them to complete their filings in a more efficient manner and helps streamline regulation for the Insurance Division of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to October 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1050, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1050, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 810 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 544

The purpose of this measure is to establish a regulatory framework for pet insurance based on the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' Pet Insurance Model Act.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association; Crum & Forster; Pumpkin Insurance Services Inc.; Pets Best Insurance Services; Spot Pet Insurance; North American Pet Health Insurance Association; Hawaiian Humane Society; Independent Pet Group; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committee finds that pet insurance is increasingly important to pet owners as the costs associated with veterinary care continue to rise. Pet owners ensure that their pets receive emergent medical care and regular wellness and preventive care. These regular veterinary visits are essential to maximizing an animal's health, longevity, and quality of life. However, this care is also expensive and the recurring expenses can leave little financial room should disease or injury occur. This measure therefore provides a regulatory framework for pet insurance in the State to protect consumers.

Your Committee notes that as this measure progresses through the legislative process, the appropriate effective date should be January 1, 2026, to provide insurance companies sufficient time to be in compliance with the provisions of this measure.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing all references to the term "producer" to the standard term "insurance producer", for consistency with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' guidance;
- (2) Extending the period for which a consumer may review and return a policy, certificate, or rider from fifteen days to thirty days;
- (3) Deleting language that prohibited a pet insurer or insurance producer from marketing a wellness program during the sale, solicitation, or negotiation of pet insurance;
- (4) Specifying that an insurance producer must be appropriately licensed under the property and casualty lines of authority before selling, soliciting, or negotiating a pet insurance product;
- (5) Inserting language to prevent any application of this measure that would impair any contract existing as of the effective date of this measure in violation of the Contract Clause of the United States Constitution or Hawaii State Constitution;
- (6) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 544, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 544, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ichiyama).

SCRep. 811 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 850

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify a condominium association board's authority with respect to calling electronic meetings, electronic voting, and mail voting;
- (2) Clarify that, in condominium association elections, cumulative voting rights apply to all candidates regardless of whether they are nominated; and
- (3) Clarify that individual votes are used in cumulative voting.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Legislative Action Committee of the Community Associations Institute; Palehua Townhouse Association; Hawai'i State Association of Parliamentarians; AOAO Lakeview Sands; Hawaii Council of Community Associations; Hawaiian Properties, Ltd.; Hawaiiana Management Company, Ltd.; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Honolulu Tower and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the law relating to condominium association electronic meetings, electronic voting, and mail voting needs further clarification and guidance. While condominium association governing documents may provide for other means of voting, existing law is silent. This measure provides added flexibility in voting at association meetings by explicitly authorizing electronic voting for in-person meetings.

Your Committee further find that existing law provides for cumulative voting only for persons nominated in elections for board member and officer positions for condominium associations. This does not account for write-in candidates. This measure expands the authorization for cumulative voting to include write-in candidates.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 850, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 850, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ilagan, Lowen, Pierick).

SCRep. 812 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 991

The purpose of this measure is to clarify that the Department of the Attorney General may conduct fingerprint-based background checks through the Federal Bureau of Investigation on contractors and contractors' employees.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that the Federal Bureau of Investigation requires fingerprint-based background checks for individuals with access to federal tax information. Act 35, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, authorized the Department of the Attorney General to conduct these checks; however, the Federal Bureau of Investigation determined that the term "agents of contractors" in statute was overly broad and did not meet its specificity requirements. By removing the term "agents of contractors" from relevant statutes, this measure upholds federal compliance and safeguards the integrity of background check procedures for those handling sensitive tax information.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 991, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 991, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 813 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 994

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the offense of promoting pornography for minors to be instituted by written information.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Hawai'i; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that existing law does not permit the offense of promoting pornography for minors to be charged by written information, unlike other related offenses such as electronic enticement of a child and commercial sexual exploitation of a minor. This measure allows written information charging for this offense, ensuring prosecutors can act swiftly during undercover operations and strengthening law enforcement's ability to protect children from online exploitation.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 994, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 994, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 814 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1091

The purpose of this measure is to require a county to accept, within 60 days after receipt of a completed application for maintenance request, license or dedication of all sewer transmission lines and other sewerage facilities servicing Hawaiian Home Lands that are brought into compliance by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands manages sewer transmission lines that are to be transferred to the various counties for long-term management and maintenance. Your Committee further finds that this measure will help to ensure that these sewer transmission lines are transferred to the counties in a timely manner. Your Committee also finds that the cost savings for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands from not having to manage and maintain sewer transmission lines would allow for more lots to be developed for applicants on the Department's waiting list and other maintenance needs for lessees who reside on Hawaiian Home Lands.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that a county is required to accept, within 60 days after receipt of a completed application for maintenance request, license or dedication of all sewer transmission lines and related sewerage facilities servicing Hawaiian Home Lands that are brought into compliance by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1091, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1091, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Todd).

SCRep. 815 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 412

The purpose of this measure is to enhance government transparency by:

- (1) Establishing certain presumptions regarding lobbying on behalf of private clients;
- (2) Making certain contracts voidable when entered into in violation of the state lobbying law; and
- (3) Expanding the definition of "lobbying" in section 97-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to include certain communications with high-level government officials regarding procurement decisions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Ethics Commission. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the State Procurement Office and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State's definition of "lobbying" is limited and could be expanded to capture certain activities that are not currently covered. This measure addresses this need and updates regulations on lobbying by establishing certain presumptions regarding lobbying on behalf of clients, making contracts voidable when entered into in violation of lobbying law, and expanding the definition of "lobbying" to include communications with government officials regarding procurement decisions.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 412, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 412, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 816 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 413

The purpose of this measure is to clarify:

- (1) Administrative oversight of statutory restrictions relating to prohibited lobbyist contributions; and
- (2) That the regular or special sessions in which lobbyist contributions are prohibited are periods during which both houses of the Legislature are in session.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Ethics Commission and Campaign Spending Commission.

Your Committee finds that this measure provides clarity as to which agencies have oversight of statutory restrictions relating to prohibited lobbyist contributions and clearly defines when lobbyist contributions are prohibited.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding a definition for "session";
- (2) Clarifying that state lobbyists alleged to have made prohibited contributions will be referred to the State Ethics Commission; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 413, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 413, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 817 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 892

The purpose of this measure is to establish limitations on geographical restrictions imposed as a condition of probation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary and Office the Public Defender.

Your Committee finds that the imposition of geographical restrictions as a condition of probation, the goal of which is rehabilitation, has significant effects on an individual's life. Although imposing geographical restrictions is intended to promote accountability and public safety, it is not always an effective tool for probation because the size of the geographic area dilutes the enforceability of the condition and ultimately makes an individual's reintegration into society more challenging. Your Committee believes that more narrowly tailoring geographic restrictions may be a better solution.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Limiting the area of a geographical restriction to no larger than 0.5 acres; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 892, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 892, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 3 (Belatti, Cochran, Todd).

SCRep. 818 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 125

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require retail sellers of firearms to provide purchasers with notice regarding the law on firearms storage;
- (2) Expand the requirements for the secure storage of firearms; and
- (3) Clarify the offense of criminally negligent storage of a firearm.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition; Hawai'i – American Nurses Association; Hawai'i Public Health Association; Giffords; Brady; Everytown for Gun Safety; Hawai'i Chapters of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America; Students Demand Action for Gun Sense in America; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Hawaii Rifle Association; Red Letter Industries; Self Defense Solutions Hawaii; Libertarian Party of Hawaii; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that unsecured or improperly stored firearms pose a significant risk to public safety, contributing to accidental injuries, deaths, suicides, theft, and increased lethality in violent situations. Your Committee further finds that access to unsecured firearms by unauthorized individuals, including minors and criminals, exacerbates these dangers and undermines responsible gun ownership. To address these risks, this measure establishes clear and enforceable requirements for the secure storage of firearms, ensuring they are properly stored to prevent unauthorized access and enhance public safety.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring a person engaged in the transfer of firearms to provide a written copy of the law related to storage of firearms with respect to minors; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 125, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 125, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garcia).

SCRep. 819 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 127

The purpose of this measure is to improve the State's system of pretrial justice by considering the need to evaluate risks to public safety, individual constitutional rights, and the fiscal and human harms that arise from overcrowded prisons. Specifically, this Act requires:

- (1) The court to enter on the record its written findings regarding the necessity of the conditions imposed on a defendant's release; and
- (2) Bail to be set in an amount that the defendant can afford based on certain factors.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission; ACLU Hawai'i; R Street Institute; Imua Alliance; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Community Alliance on Prisons; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Hawai'i; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Maui; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; Fathers and Mothers for Children Kauai Chapter; American Bail Coalition; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary.

Your Committee finds that the use of cash bail disproportionately impacts low-income individuals, who often remain detained solely because they cannot afford bail, while wealthier defendants are released. Moreover, pretrial detention for low-risk individuals disrupts employment, housing, and family stability, creating lasting economic and social hardships that extend beyond the individual to their community. Lastly, cash bail exacerbates racial and ethnic disparities in the criminal justice system, eroding public trust and highlighting systemic inequities. This measure requires courts to set bail to be in an amount that the defendant can afford based on certain factors.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that required a court to enter on the record its written findings regarding the necessity of the conditions imposed on a defendant's release;
- (2) Specifying that the court enter its findings on the record regarding the defendant's ability to afford bail;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 127, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 127, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 2 (Garcia, Shimizu). Excused, 2 (Belatti, Cochran).

SCRep. 820 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 128

The purpose of this measure is to reduce the number of unnecessary arrests made in criminal cases by:

- (1) Establishing factors under which officers may, without warrant, arrest and detain persons for petty misdemeanors and violations; and
- (2) Requiring officers to record the factors that justified the warrantless arrest.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the ACLU of Hawai'i; Policing Project at NYU School of Law; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Honolulu Police Department; Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Hawaii; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Maui; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers; Fathers and Mothers for Children Kauai Chapter; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that unnecessary arrests for certain criminal cases place a significant strain on limited police resources, contribute to overcrowding in correctional facilities, and often result in unjust hardships for individuals and their families. These arrests not only disrupt lives but also create financial and emotional burdens. This measure aims to reduce the number of unnecessary arrests by establishing specific conditions for warrantless arrests and allowing citations to be issued in lieu of arrest for certain minor offenses.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 128, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 128, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 2 (Garcia, Shimizu). Excused, 3 (Belatti, Cochran, Todd).

SCRep. 821 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 141

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Make the members of the Elections Commission subject to the advice and consent of the Senate; and
- (2) Clarify that a majority of all members to which the Elections Commission is entitled shall constitute a quorum to do business.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the County Clerk of the County of Kaua'i; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; and six individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaiian Islands Republican Women and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that this measure will increase transparency in the process of appointing members to the Elections Commission and allow for public input on nominees.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Chief Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court to appoint the member nominated if the vacancy occurs in the interim period when the Senate is not in regular session or special session; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 141, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 141, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 2 (Garcia, Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 822 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 371

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit state or county grantees and officers and immediate family members of state or county contractors or grantees from contributing to candidate or noncandidate committees for the duration of the contract; and
- (2) Require candidates, candidate committees, or noncandidate committees to return any unlawful contribution to the contributor within thirty calendar days of receipt or the unlawful contribution will escheat to the Hawaii Election Campaign Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Campaign Spending Commission; Green Party of Hawai'i; Free Access Coalition; Our Hawai'i; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Hawai'i Workers Center; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that under existing campaign finance law, only a state or county contractor is prohibited from making campaign contributions. The law does not prohibit the officers or family members of the contractor from making contributions. Nor does the law prohibit state grantees from making campaign contributions even though these entities receive funds appropriated by the Legislature, similar to state or county contractors.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the definition of "immediate family" under campaign finance laws to make it applicable to the provisions of this measure;
- (2) Prohibiting officers or immediate family members of any state or county contractor or grantee from making a contribution to any candidate or to any person for any political purpose or use;
- (3) Requiring each state and county agency to report to the Campaign Spending Commission the names of any state or county contractor or grantee and the names of the contractor's and grantee's officers and adult immediate family members;
- (4) Requiring the Campaign Spending Commission to periodically publish the names of the state and county contractors and grantees, and their officers and adult immediate family members, on its website, as reported by the state and county agencies;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 371, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 371, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 823 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 372

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit state and county elected officials from soliciting and accepting campaign contributions during any regular session or special session of the Legislature, including extensions of any regular session or special session or any legislative recess day, holiday, or weekend.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Campaign Spending Commission; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; and seven individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that this measure would promote a fairer electoral system by reducing the financial advantage of incumbents and ensuring that legislators prioritize their duties to constituents over fundraising.

Your Committee has amended this measure by narrowing the scope of the prohibition to only state legislators, rather than all state and county elected officials.

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. 372, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 372, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 824 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 389

The purpose of this measure is to increase the penalty for using an uncrewed aircraft in the furtherance of the commission of a felony.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender.

Your Committee finds that the increasing accessibility and misuse of drones pose a growing public safety threat. However, your Committee further finds that, rather than increasing the penalty for using drones in the furtherance of the commission of a felony, clarity should be given to distinguish the use of drones to further the commission of a felony, which is currently a class C felony, and other similar offenses that have exactly the same elements but are considered a class A felony or class B felony.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have increased the penalty for using an uncrewed aircraft in the furtherance of the commission of a felony;
- (2) Clarifying the applicable felony offenses for using an uncrewed aircraft in the furtherance of the commission of a felony; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 389, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 389, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 825 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 980

The purpose of this measure is to amend the law authorizing the killing of mongoose by clarifying the circumstances under which mongoose may be killed and authorizing feral chickens to be killed under certain circumstances.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Animal Rights Hawai'i; Hawaiian Humane Society; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture and Department of Customer Services of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that the growing population of feral chickens has become a significant nuisance in residential areas. Beyond being a public nuisance, feral chickens also present a serious health risk as potential carriers of H5N1 avian influenza, a highly contagious disease that threatens native bird species and public health. This measure addresses these concerns by allowing the humane removal of feral chickens from private property with landowner permission, helping to mitigate health risks.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the authorized methods for killing feral chickens on private land; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 980, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 980, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 826 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 698

The purpose of this measure is to increase the category offense for various animal cruelty offenses.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Green Party of Hawai'i; Hina's Legacy Rescue Foundation; Animal Rights Hawai'i; Fur-Angel Foundation; Hawaiian Humane Society; Omizu Architecture Inc.; Hawaii SPCA; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that animal cruelty is a serious crime with strong links to violence against humans, particularly vulnerable groups such as children, intimate partners, and the elderly. Research indicates that many violent offenders have a history of abusing animals, and exposure to such cruelty during

childhood increases the likelihood of future abusive behavior. This measure enhances penalties for animal cruelty offenses to ensure harsher consequences for offenders and improve community safety.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 698, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 698, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Perruso). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 827 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 392

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish mandatory minimum sentencing for use of a ghost gun in the commission of a felony; and
- (2) Prohibit the manufacture, possession, sale, barter, trade, gift, transfer, or acquisition of ghost guns.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; Giffords; and ten individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the National Rifle Association; Hawaii Rifle Association; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that this measure will strengthen Hawaii's firearms laws and enhance public safety in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the preamble;
- (2) Clarifying that the penalties for a subsequent conviction for a ghost gun felony offense are the same as the penalties for a second ghost gun felony offense; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 392, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 392, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 1 (Shimizu). Excused, 2 (Hashem, Garcia).

SCRep. 828 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 893

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Beginning July 8, 2024, prohibit:
 - (A) Persons from bringing or causing to be brought into the State assault rifles, assault shotguns, or .50 caliber rifles; and
 - (B) The sale or transfer of assault rifles, assault shotguns, or .50 caliber rifles in the State to anyone other than authorized individuals;
- (2) Amend the prohibition on certain assault weapons to include assault rifles, assault shotguns, and .50 caliber rifles, subject to certain limitations;
- (3) Expand the ban on high-capacity detachable magazines to include those magazines designed for or capable of use with any firearm; and
- (4) Create exceptions for the acquisition and possession of prohibited firearms and detachable magazines for members of law enforcement and the military.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from a member of the Hawai'i County Council; Animal Rights Hawai'i; HCANSpeaks!; Church of the Crossroads; Hawai'i-American Nurses Association; Hawai'i Public Health Association; Gun Owners for Safety; Giffords; Brady; Vet Voice Foundation; Everytown for Gun Safety; Hawai'i Chapters of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America; Students Demand Action for Gun Sense in America; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Hawaii Coalition for Immigrant Rights; Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the National Rifle Association in Hawaii; Hawaii Rifle Association; Red Letter Industries; Pu'uloa Rifle and Pistol Club; Hawaiian Islands Republican Women; Self Defense Solutions Hawaii; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that this measure would strengthen Hawaii's firearms laws and promote public safety.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the preamble;
- (2) Changing the start date of the prohibition on assault rifles, assault shotguns, and .50 caliber rifles to July 8, 2025;
- (3) Amending the storage requirements for when an authorized person possesses an assault rifle, assault shotgun, or .50 caliber rifle while traveling to or from certain authorized locations;
- (4) Deleting language that would have created exceptions for the acquisition and possession of prohibited firearms and detachable magazines for members of law enforcement and the military, since existing law already provides an exception;
- (5) Inserting a severability clause; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 893, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 893, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Garcia).

SCRep. 829 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 137

The purpose of this measure is to require that felons that are in violation of the prohibition against owning, possessing, or controlling a firearm or ammunition be sentenced to a mandatory prison term.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Hawai'i Police Department; Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Hawai'i; State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that although firearms offenses are often committed by convicted felons who are prohibited from owning, possessing, or controlling firearms or ammunition, these individuals frequently avoid penalties like prison sentences. This measure aims to reduce crime, enhance public safety, and ensure consistency in the sentencing of dangerous offenders.

Your Committee has amended this measure by specifying that the mandatory prison term be imposed on felons whose prior felony conviction is that of a crime of violence.

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. 137, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 137, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Cochran, Kahaloa, Garcia, Shimizu).

SCRep. 830 Finance on H.B. No. 202

The purpose of this measure is to amend the definition of "adequate reserve fund" to specify the multipliers used in the calculation of the adequate reserve fund for calendar years 2026 and thereafter.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 202, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Lee, Morikawa, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 831 Finance on H.B. No. 477

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal the statutory requirement to post work availability online;
- (2) Amend eligibility qualifications for certain unemployment benefits;
- (3) Beginning April 1, 2027, permit electronic notification of determinations or redeterminations of unemployment claims; and
- (4) Remove language that limited an individual's ability to change a previously elected withholding status only once during a benefit year.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 477, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Lee, Morikawa, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 832 Finance on H.B. No. 1026

The purpose of this measure is to make emergency appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Bargaining Units (1), (2), (3), (4), (8), (9), (10), (13), and (14) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal year 2024-2025.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; University of Hawai'i System; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1026, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 833 Finance on H.B. No. 1027

The purpose of this measure is to provide appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of bargaining unit (1) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; University of Hawai'i System; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; and United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1027, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 834 Finance on H.B. No. 1028

The purpose of this measure is to provide appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of bargaining unit (2) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; University of Hawai'i System; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1028, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 835 Finance on H.B. No. 1029

The purpose of this measure is to provide appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of bargaining unit (3) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; University of Hawai'i System; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1029, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 836 Finance on H.B. No. 1030

The purpose of this measure is to provide appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of bargaining unit (4) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; University of Hawai'i System; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1030, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 837 Finance on H.B. No. 1031

The purpose of this measure is to provide appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of bargaining unit (5) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and Hawai'i State Teachers Association. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1031, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 838 Finance on H.B. No. 1032

The purpose of this measure is to provide appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of bargaining unit (6) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1032, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 839 Finance on H.B. No. 1033

The purpose of this measure is to provide appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of bargaining unit (7) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; University of Hawai'i System; and University of Hawaii Professional Assembly. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1033, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 840 Finance on H.B. No. 1034

The purpose of this measure is to provide appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of bargaining unit (8) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; University of Hawai'i System; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1034, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 841 Finance on H.B. No. 1035

The purpose of this measure is to provide appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of bargaining unit (9) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; University of Hawai'i System; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1035, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 842 Finance on H.B. No. 1036

The purpose of this measure is to provide appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Bargaining Unit (10) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; University of Hawai'i System; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; and United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1036, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 843 Finance on H.B. No. 1037

The purpose of this measure is to provide appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Bargaining Unit (11) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and Hawaii Fire Fighters Association, Local 1463, IAFF, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1037, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 844 Finance on H.B. No. 1038

The purpose of this measure is to provide appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of bargaining unit (13) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1038, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 845 Finance on H.B. No. 1039

The purpose of this measure is to provide appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of bargaining unit (14) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1039, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 846 Finance on H.B. No. 88

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a student athlete travel pilot program to provide funds for intra-county travel expenses for student athletes of counties with a population of less than five hundred thousand.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Molokai High School Athletics and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of Education.

Your Committee notes the concerns of the Department of the Attorney General in its written testimony on this measure, that any sports-related travel for student athletes must comply with applicable federal and state laws.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 88, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 847 Finance on H.B. No. 329

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify that the School Facilities Authority is responsible for projects related to:
 - (A) Certain facilities for prekindergarten, preschool, child care, and early learning programs;
 - (B) Workforce housing for educators and other education workers; and
 - (C) Any public school development, planning, and construction assigned by the Legislature, Governor, or Board of Education;
- (2) Allow the School Facilities Authority to use the Department of Education for certain recruitment and hiring responsibilities; and
- (3) Allow the School Facilities Authority to partner with public and private development agencies to develop prekindergarten facilities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the School Facilities Authority; EPD Corp.; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education; Department of the Attorney General; and Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!.

Your Committee notes the concerns from the Department of the Attorney General in its written testimony regarding:

- (1) The Department of Education's lack of jurisdiction over child care and early learning programs that are not on public school campuses;
- (2) Whether the School Facilities Authority is responsible for the repair and maintenance of prekindergarten and preschool programs on Department of Education or public charter school campuses; and
- (3) Whether workforce housing for educators and other education workers must be on public school property to qualify as a public school project.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 329, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 848 Finance on H.B. No. 624

The purpose of this measure is to establish the School Psychologists Working Group within the Department of Education to recommend actionable steps for or propose legislation on an immediate pathway to licensure for school psychologists that can be acted upon in 2026.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; Hawai'i Association of School Psychologists; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Board of Psychology; Hawai'i Psychological Association; and Hawai'i Primary Care Association.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 624, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 849 Finance on H.B. No. 429

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Executive Office on Early Learning:

- (1) To hire teachers and teacher assistants; and
- (2) For equipment and services for public preschools.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Lieutenant Governor; Early Learning Board; Executive Office on Early Learning; State Public Charter School Commission; Hawai'i Business Roundtable; Kamehameha Schools; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Special Education Advisory Council; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 429, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 850 Finance on H.B. No. 619

The purpose of this measure is to require the Board of Education to adopt and enact a policy by the 2026-2027 school year directing Department of Education public schools to incorporate financial literacy education in the school's curriculum.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Youth Services Network; Hawaii Credit Union League; Hawaii Bankers Association; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Board of Education.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 619, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Lee, Morikawa, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 851 Finance on H.B. No. 627

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Education for positions to implement and maintain school safety measures.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Department of Education; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; and two individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 627, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 852 Finance on H.B. No. 637

The purpose of this measure is to support students with dyslexia and students with language and literacy challenges by:

- (1) Requiring public schools to administer Department of Education approved dyslexia sensitive universal screening as a part of the universal screening process;
- (2) Requiring public schools to implement evidence-based interventions, through the Hawaii multi-tiered system of supports, for students who are identified as having dyslexia and students who are flagged as having language and literacy challenges;
- (3) Requiring the Department of Education to provide professional development for teachers to increase the implementation of structured literacy instruction; and
- (4) Requiring the Department of Education to support pre-service teacher programs in training their general and special education teacher candidates in structured literacy instruction.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities; HawaiiKidsCAN; Hawai'i State Literacy Coalition; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Special Education Advisory Council; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 637, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 853 Finance on H.B. No. 763

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Hawaii Civic Education Trust Fund for the educational benefit of students in the Hawaii public school system; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the expansion of civic education in public schools.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Commission to Promote and Advance Civic Education; American Judicature Society; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Young Democrats of Hawai'i; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; and seven individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and Department of Education.

Your Committee notes the concern that authorizing the Superintendent of Education to allocate Hawaii Civic Education Trust Fund monies for operations of the Department of Education may go beyond the scope of the title of this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 763, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 854 Finance on H.B. No. 904

The purpose of this measure is to repeal the requirement for the Board of Education to annually report to the Legislature, Governor, and public on public charter schools.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Board of Education and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 904, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 855 Finance on H.B. No. 962

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Education to establish and administer a two-year school librarian pilot program to provide financial support to Department of Education schools for the hiring of qualified librarians.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Public Library System; Hawai'i Library Association; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 962, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 856 Finance on H.B. No. 961

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a two-year pilot program for certified librarians to provide rotating support services to schools in one school complex on Oahu and one school complex on a neighbor island; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Public Library System; Hawai'i Library Association; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 961, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 857 Finance on H.B. No. 987

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the State Procurement Automation System Special Fund to receive transaction fees from the procurement automation system to pay for the system's administration, management, operation, maintenance, and upgrade; and
- (2) Add the School Facilities Authority Executive Director as a chief procurement officer.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services and State Procurement Office.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 987, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 858 Finance on H.B. No. 1065

The purpose of this measure is to require stipend funds repaid by a stipend recipient under the Hawaii Early Childhood Educator Stipend Program to be deposited into the Early Learning Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Early Learning Board; Executive Office on Early Learning; and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1065, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 859 Finance on H.B. No. 1234

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Education to establish a standards-based Water Safety Education Pilot Program; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the establishment of the standards-based Water Safety Education Pilot Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition; Waikiki Neighborhood Board; Hawaii Water Safety Coalition; Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku Foundation; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education; Department of Health; and Hawaiian Lifeguard Association.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1234, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 860 Finance on H.B. No. 529

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to secure revenue bonds as a line of credit or other instrument of indebtedness for the Bond Volume Cap Recycling Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 529, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 861 Finance on H.B. No. 442

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for various nursing programs for the University of Hawaii System.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; Hawai'i State Center for Nursing; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hilo Benioff Medical Center; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawaii Association of Health Plans; AlohaCare; and two individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 442, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Lee, Morikawa, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 862 Finance on H.B. No. 1169

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the University of Hawaii Conference Center Revolving Fund to facilitate the administration of conference center programs among various campuses and operating units of the University of Hawaii System;
- (2) Repeal the Conference Center Revolving Fund for the University of Hawaii at Hilo and Community College Conference Center Revolving Fund and lapse all unencumbered funds to the University of Hawaii Conference Center Revolving Fund; and
- (3) Appropriate funds out of the University of Hawaii Conference Center Revolving Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1169, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Lee, Morikawa, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 863 Finance on H.B. No. 133

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Education to support the establishment of surfing as an interscholastic sport.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Governor's Sports Task Force; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Hāna High and Elementary School; HP Baldwin High School Surf Team; Leilehua High School Mules Surf Team; Spirit Tribe Xtreme; Hawaiian Lifeguard Association; Hawaii Water Safety Coalition; Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku Foundation; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 133, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 864 Finance on H.B. No. 307

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of special number plates to recognize restoration and preservation efforts on Kaho'olawe Island by the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana, Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission, and other community members.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission; Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; and numerous individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 307, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 865 Finance on H.B. No. 531

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of special number plates to recognize the University of Hawaii Cancer Center.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Lou's Quality Home Health Care Services; and two individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 531, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 866 Finance on H.B. No. 1025

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Designate the Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange Between East and West, Inc., as the State of Hawaii Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange Between East and West, Inc. (East-West Center);
- (2) Exempt general revenues of the State of Hawaii received by the East-West Center from the requirements of chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and
- (3) Establish criteria the East-West Center must meet to receive state funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; East-West Center; and East-West Center Employees Association, AFSCME Local 928, AFL-CIO.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1025, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 867 Finance on H.B. No. 427

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Rename the Department of Agriculture to the "Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity";
- (2) Rename the Board of Agriculture to the "Board of Agriculture and Biosecurity";
- (3) Establish and appropriate funds for a Deputy Director of Biosecurity;
- (4) Change references to the plant and animal declaration form to the "biosecurity form";
- (5) Authorize and specify conditions under which the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity may declare a biosecurity emergency, during which the Department and Governor may take certain actions to prevent the establishment or spread of pests and prohibited or restricted organisms;
- (6) Broaden the objectives and general actions of the Biosecurity Program; and
- (7) Appropriate funds for positions for the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawai'i Invasive Species Council; Larry Jeffs Farms, LLC; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; and Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 427, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 868 Finance on H.B. No. 428

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for the Hawaii Farm to Families Program to fund food banks in the State to purchase, store, and transport fresh, Hawaii-grown or -produced food to food insecure communities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; City and County of Honolulu Office of Economic Revitalization; Maui County Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Youth Food Council; Maui Food Bank; Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; 350Hawaii.org; The Food Basket Inc.; Hawai'i Island's Food Bank; Hawai'i Hunger Action Network; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Hawai'i Foodbank; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Young Brothers, LLC; Hawaiian Electric; Hawaii Crop Improvement Association; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawaii Fish Company Inc.; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Green Party of Hawai'i; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments from this measure from one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 428, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 869 Finance on H.B. No. 496

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish labeling requirements for māmakī tea, including by prohibiting the use of certain words on a consumer package unless one hundred percent of the tea or dried leaves were grown in the State; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for a Measurement Standards Inspector position.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; and two individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 496, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 870 Finance on H.B. No. 534

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the sale of processed food items with raw ahi products as an ingredient at Hawaii retail establishments without a label stating the country in which the ahi was landed.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Fishing Tales with Mike Sakamoto; Hawaii Longline Association; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 534, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 871 Finance on H.B. No. 643

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish short-term management initiatives for the Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Response Program, including subsidies for canopy treatments for residential palm owners; and

(2) Appropriate funds to support the Program's activities and positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Invasive Species Council; Big Island Invasive Species Committee; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Mālama Kaua'i; Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; University of Hawai'i System; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Office of Economic Development of the County of Kaua'i; and National Tropical Botanical Garden.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 643, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 872 Finance on H.B. No. 773

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for grant specialist positions within the Department of Agriculture to assist farmers and ranchers in applying for, obtaining, and fulfilling the requirements of grants offered by the United States Department of Agriculture, State, counties, or private entities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Local Food Coalition; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; and three individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 773, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 873 Finance on H.B. No. 774

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Food and Product Innovation Network within the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Local Food Coalition; Hawaii Fish Company Inc.; Ulupono Initiative; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 774, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 874 Finance on H.B. No. 782

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a working group within the Department of Agriculture to review and make recommendations on amending or repealing unnecessary or obsolete laws pertaining to agriculture.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Ahiki Acres, LLC; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; East O'ahu County Farm Bureau; Hawaii Fish Company Inc.; Maui County Farm Bureau; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 782, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 875 Finance on H.B. No. 858

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Agriculture to revitalize and enhance the Agricultural Statistics Program to collect data on local agricultural interests; and
- (2) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Ulupono Initiative; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Information Practices and University of Hawai'i System.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 858, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 876 Finance on H.B. No. 1185

The purpose of this measure is to establish, and appropriate funds for, a Plant-Based Building Materials Working Group within the University of Hawaii at Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience to study and report on how best to grow plants and develop plant-based building materials in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from 350Hawaii.org; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Environmental Change Agents' Building Decarbonization and Carbon Sequestration Task Force; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; and eight individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture and University of Hawai'i System.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1185, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 877 Finance on H.B. No. 1237

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Agriculture for agricultural biosecurity and the prevention, detection, and control of invasive species in Maui County.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; ALAOLU OHANA; Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Maui Invasive Species Committee; and five individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1237, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 878 Finance on H.B. No. 1497

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require and appropriate funds for the Department of Agriculture to develop an online reporting tool to document applications of restricted use pesticides; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to convert temporary Environmental Health Specialist III positions into permanent positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Crop Improvement Association.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1497, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 879 Finance on H.B. No. 242

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a working group within the Hawaii State Energy Office to examine how to maximize the recycling and reuse of electric vehicle batteries and recommend electric vehicle battery management practices; and
- (2) Require the working group to submit a report to the Legislature prior to the Regular Session of 2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Coalition Earth; Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association; Climate Future Forum; Servco Pacific Inc.; Alliance for Automotive Innovation; and Redwood Materials. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Hawai'i State Energy Office; Department of Environmental Management of the County of Hawai'i; Radius Recycling; and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 242, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 880 Finance on H.B. No. 344

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Beginning July 1, 2026, require the design of all new state building construction where parking is to be included to have at least twenty-five percent of parking stalls be electric vehicle charger-ready;
- (2) Require the Hawaii State Energy Office to conduct a survey and identify certain high-priority state facilities that include parking that can be retrofitted to include electric vehicle charging infrastructure and report to the Legislature;
- (3) Establish a goal of the State to retrofit state facilities to be electric vehicle charger-ready; and
- (4) Appropriate funds to the Hawaii State Energy Office to conduct a cost assessment and perform or contract for the installation of retrofits and electric vehicle charging systems at high-priority state facilities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services; Department of Transportation; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Coalition Earth; 350Hawaii.org; Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association; Climate Future Forum; Hawaiian Electric; Ulupono Initiative; Alliance for Automotive Innovation; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation Commission; Hawai'i State Energy Office; Disability and Communication Access Board; and Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 344, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 881 Finance on H.B. No. 734

The purpose of this measure is to require and appropriate funds for the Department of Health, in consultation with various agencies and professionals, to review rules and practices and propose changes that have the potential to make wastewater systems and cesspool upgrades more affordable without compromising water quality.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Office of the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i; The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i and Palmyra; WAI: Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Public Access to SunScreens Coalition; Coral Reef Alliance; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 734, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 882 Finance on H.B. No. 735

The purpose of this measure is to allow an individual wastewater system to serve up to five bedrooms, regardless of the number of dwellings, dwelling units, or accessory units, whether the dwellings, dwelling units, or accessory units are attached or detached, with certain exclusions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Kaua'i County Housing Agency; Hanalei Initiative; and Grassroot Institute of Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 735, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 883 Finance on H.B. No. 736

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a three-year New Wastewater System Technology Testing Pilot Program within the University of Hawaii Water Resources Research Center.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Office of the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Climate Change and Health Working Group; WAI: Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations; The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i and Palmyra; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Public Access to SunScreens Coalition; Coral Reef Alliance; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; University of Hawai'i Water Resources Research Center; and Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 736, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 884 Finance on H.B. No. 749

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Cesspool Conversion Section within the Department of Health's Wastewater Branch that is dedicated to facilitating the conversion of cesspools within the State; and
- (2) Establish and appropriate funds for positions within the Cesspool Conversion Section.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program; Office of the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; WAI: Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations; The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i and Palmyra; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Surfrider Foundation, Hawai'i Region; Hawai'i Ocean Legislative Task Force; Public Access to SunScreens Coalition; Coral Reef Alliance; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health and Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 749, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 885 Finance on H.B. No. 750

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify the authorized uses of the Deposit Beverage Container Deposit Special Fund to include evaluating and promoting recyclable market development activities;
- (2) Require and appropriate funds for the Department of Health to conduct a statewide needs assessment and establish an advisory council with relevant stakeholders to determine what would be needed to transition to a more circular system with less waste generation and more reuse, and the necessary infrastructure to sort and locally process recyclable materials through an extended producer responsibility program for packaging materials and paper products; and
- (3) Require the Department of Health to hold a public hearing on the draft needs assessment and submit the needs assessment to the Legislature by December 31, 2028.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Just Zero; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Hawai'i Climate Change and Health Working Group; Recycle Hawaii; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments

on this measure from the Department of Health; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; and Hawaii Food Industry Association.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 750, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 886 Finance on H.B. No. 974

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Budget and Finance to enter into step-in agreements for payment obligations arising under certain power purchase agreements;
- (2) Establish the Power Purchase Costs Trust Fund;
- (3) Require revenues collected from on-bill charges associated with covered power purchase agreements and revenues from a surcharge supporting a reserve account to be held in trust by the State, and require independent power producers to hold a beneficial interest in the revenues to the extent of the amounts owed under the covered power purchase agreements; and
- (4) Permit the Department of Budget and Finance to contract with an electric utility to serve as an agent of the Department for the purposes of billing, collection, and management in the service of performing step-in agreements.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Public Utilities Commission; County of Kaua'i; Longroad Energy; Plus Power; Hawai'i Regional Council of Carpenters; Ameresco; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Executive Collaborative; Bowers + Kubota; Chaminade University; Zephyr Insurance; Hua Nani Partners; Blue Planet Foundation; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of the Attorney General; Hawaiian Electric; Clearway Energy Group LLC; AES Hawai'i; and General Contractors Association of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 974, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 887 Finance on H.B. No. 977

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund to be used to provide financial assistance to underserved ratepayers, in addition to other eligible borrowers; and
- (2) Appropriate funds into and out of the Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority; Climate Protectors Hawaii; Coalition Earth; 350Hawaii.org; PV Tech; Northshore Holdings Group Inc.; Revolusun Smart Home; Holu Hou Energy; Inter-Island Solar Supply; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Public Utilities Commission; and Hawai'i Energy.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 977, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 888 Finance on H.B. No. 879

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the maximum grant amount for the Cesspool Compliance Pilot Grant Project; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the Cesspool Compliance Pilot Grant Project.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; City and County of Honolulu Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; WAI: Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Public Access to SunScreens Coalition; Coral Reef Alliance; The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i and Palmyra; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 879, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 889 Finance on H.B. No. 1017

The purpose of this measure is to repeal the Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1017, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 890 Finance on H.B. No. 1020

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Hawaii State Energy Office, in collaboration with the Hawaii Groundwater and Geothermal Resources Center at the University of Hawaii and Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, to implement a Carbon Sequestration and Underground Water Resource Characterization Program and conduct an environmental assessment;
- (2) Require the Hawaii State Energy Office to submit a progress report to the Legislature prior to the Regular Session of 2028; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for the program, including a staff position.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Hawai'i State Energy Office; Ulupono Initiative; and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1020, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 891 Finance on H.B. No. 1307

The purpose of this measure is to provide follow-up funding for the next steps in the investigation, exploration, and identification of geothermal resources on Hawaiian home lands.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Hawaiian Electric; Sustainable Energy Hawai'i; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce; Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Hawaii; and eight individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from five individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1307, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, 1 (Reyes Oda). Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 892 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1098

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Specify that intentionally or knowingly causing bodily injury to a protective services worker who is engaged in the performance of the worker's duties is a class C felony; and
- (2) Clarify that a protective services worker is a public servant for the purposes of terroristic threatening in the first degree.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services; Honolulu Police Department; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the role protective services workers play in safeguarding children and vulnerable adults from abuse and neglect is vital. However, these workers frequently encounter threats, harassment, and even physical violence, which can compromise their safety and ability to perform their duties effectively. By strengthening the legal protections for protective services personnel against violence, this measure ensures that critical protective services remain effective and accessible across the State.

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. 1098, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 893 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 979

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require that a current general excise tax license number for any rental income be filed with the complaint to the court for summary possession proceedings; and
- (2) Require the Judiciary to submit an annual list of certain information regarding summary possession cases to the Department of Taxation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary; Department of Taxation; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that some landlords currently rent properties without proper registration, avoiding tax obligations while still utilizing the legal system to evict tenants. This measure seeks to close that loophole by requiring landlords to present a valid general excise tax license before initiating summary possession proceedings for unpaid rent, preventing landlords from taking advantage of state resources while failing to meet their own financial responsibilities.

Your Committee recommends this measure be effective on July 1, 2026, to provide time for the Department of Taxation to implement the requirements of this measure.

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. 979, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 894 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1482

The purpose of this measure is to, for purposes of the Hemp Processors Law, amend the definitions of "artificially derived cannabis" and "cannabis" to include all forms of cannabinoids classified as schedule I under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, and explicitly exclude synthetic cannabinoids and artificially derived cannabinoids from the definition of "manufactured hemp product."

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Honolulu Police Department; Cure Oahu; Noa Botanicals; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that delta-8-tetrahydrocannabinol and other synthetic cannabinoids may be artificially synthesized from hemp-derived compounds. These synthetic cannabinoids have a high degree of danger or probable danger. This measure makes it explicit that these synthetic cannabinoids are prohibited from being included in manufactured hemp products.

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. 1482, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Cochran, Kahaloa, Garcia, Shimizu).

SCRep. 895 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1291

The purpose of this measure is to extend the offense of false labeling of Hawaii-grown coffee to include roasted coffee.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Coffee Growers Association; Synergistic Hawai'i Agriculture Council; Heavenly Hawaiian Farms; Kona Coffee Farmers Association; Hawaii Coffee Association; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii-grown coffee is recognized for its high quality and aromatic flavor and is held to a set of quality standards, making it one of the most expensive coffees in the world. Hawaii's coffee industry is a vital economic driver for the State, generating millions of dollars annually in agricultural value. To protect this lucrative industry, the Legislature enacted Act 211, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, which requires all coffee products carrying a Hawaii geographical reference to disclose the location where the coffee was grown and indicate the percentage by weight of locally grown coffee and coffee grown elsewhere. However, your Committee notes that existing law is focused on green, or unroasted, coffee, creating a loophole that allows mislabeling of roasted coffee containing little or no genuine Hawaii-grown beans. This measure addresses this loophole and strengthens consumer protections by ensuring that roasted coffee labeled as Hawaii-grown truly originates from Hawaii farms.

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. 1291, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 896 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1259

The purpose of this measure is to specify that an engineering study is not required to be considered when reducing the maximum speed limit within ten miles per hour of the existing speed limit for that road.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that from 2023 to 2024, traffic fatalities in Hawaii increased by ten percent. Your Committee further finds that over half of all respondents to the 2024 annual behavioral study conducted by the Department of Transportation reported exceeding the posted speed limit by ten to twenty miles per hour and nearly one quarter reported exceeding the posted speed limit by more than twenty miles per hour. Granting the Department of Transportation the flexibility to lower maximum speed limits within ten miles per hour of the existing speed limit without first conducting a study, as proposed by this measure, will help the State achieve its goal of reducing traffic related deaths and serious injuries to zero by 2045.

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. 1259, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 897 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 860

The purpose of this measure is to provide immunity to the State and counties for injuries sustained due to the repair or maintenance of streets undertaken by the State or a county in cases in which the ownership or jurisdiction of such streets is in dispute between the State and a county.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; one member of the Maui County Council; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Association for Justice and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that roads with unresolved ownership or jurisdictional dispute often fall into disrepair, creating significant challenges to public safety, infrastructure maintenance, and government accountability. Your Committee further finds that in order to ensure appropriate and necessary maintenance measures can be undertaken, there is a need to clarify that a State or county performing necessary repairs maintenance on roads with disputed ownership does not convey ownership of these roads to the State or county.

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. 860, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Perruso, Garcia). Noes, 1 (Belatti). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 898 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1069

The purpose of this measure is to add two voting members that represent the Department of Education and Board of Education to the School Facilities Board.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Board of Education and Department of Education. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the School Facilities Authority.

Your Committee finds that while the School Facilities Authority is responsible for overseeing the development and construction of public school facilities throughout Hawaii, the Department of Education plays a crucial role in ensuring that these projects align with the needs of students, educators, and school operations. Additionally, the Board of Education provides policy oversight for the Department. This measure enhances coordination by adding two voting members, one from the Department of Education and one from the Board of Education, to the School Facilities Authority Board, fostering stronger collaboration, accountability, and alignment between school facilities planning and the State's broader educational priorities.

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. 1069, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Todd).

SCRep. 899 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 1370

The purpose of this measure is to amend the definition of draft beer, for purposes of the Liquor Tax Law, to mean beer in an individual container of five gallons or more.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Maui Brewing Co.; Hana Koa Brewing Co.; Kauai Beer Company; Lanikai Brewing Company; Honolulu Beerworks; Kaua'i Island Brewing Company, LLC; Napali Brewing Company; Howzit Brewing; Brewers Association; Ola Brew Co.; Big Island Brewhaus; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation.

Your Committee finds that the classification of draft beer under the Liquor Tax Law is inconsistent with the existing industry practice. The common container sizes for draught beer are 15.5-gallon kegs, 13.2-gallon kegs, and 5.16-gallon kegs. In the 1990s, 7.75-gallon kegs were popular but have since dwindled in popularity. Now, businesses prefer to either have the bigger size or smaller size, not the intermediate option.

Your Committee further finds that most restaurants and bars in the State have limited space and typically order individual container sizes of 5.16-gallon kegs. Many establishments can only accommodate the smaller kegs, including Waikiki hotel bars and pool bars. This measure amends the definition of draft beer under the Liquor Tax Law to conform with industry practices, which will promote compliance, reduce administrative burdens, and foster industry growth among local brewers, distillers, and small producers.

Your Committee notes the request by the Department of Taxation to have this measure take effect January 1, 2026, to provide sufficient time for the Department to make form instruction changes and provide notice to taxpayers.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1370, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ilagan, Lowen, Pierick).

SCRep. 900 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 1051

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an additional energy-efficiency portfolio standard of six thousand gigawatt hours of electricity use reductions statewide by 2045;
- (2) Authorize the Public Utilities Commission to establish interim goals for 2035 and 2045 and adjust the 2030 and 2045 standards and interim standards; and
- (3) Require the interim goals to show clear progress toward meeting the statutory 2030 and 2045 energy-efficiency portfolio standards.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Hawai'i State Energy Office; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Hawai'i Green Infrastructure Authority; Public Utilities Commission; Office of Economic Development of the County of Kauai; Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency of the City and County of Honolulu; Uluopono Initiative; Inter-Island Solar Supply; Coalition Earth; Buildings and Sequestration Task Force of the Hawai'i Environmental Change Agents; 350Hawaii.org; Hawai'i Energy; Hawaii Solar Energy Association; Hawaiian Electric; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; Hawai'i Executive Collaborative; Bowers + Kubota; Chaminade University; Zephyr Insurance; Huanani Partners; Blue Planet Foundation; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the energy-efficiency portfolio standards have been a successful policy for the State, serving as a critical component in support of the State's clean energy and decarbonization goals. Since the standards were established, they have generated many successful energy-saving programs for Hawaii residents and businesses. According to the most recent Market Potential Study (2020), the State is on track to meet and exceed the established 2030 target of four thousand three hundred gigawatt hours of energy savings. This measure challenges the State to further exceed the goal by establishing a new long-term goal of six thousand gigawatt hours by 2045.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1051, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Kong). Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, none.

SCRep. 901 Finance on H.B. No. 139

The purpose of this measure is to require insurers, mutual benefit societies, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for standard fertility preservation services for persons undergoing medically necessary treatment that may cause iatrogenic infertility, for policies, contracts, plans, and agreements issued or renewed after December 31, 2025.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Society of Clinical Oncology; Association for Clinical Oncology; FORCE: Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered; Leukemia & Lymphoma Society; Advanced Reproductive Medicine & Gynecology of Hawaii, Inc.; Fertility Institute of Hawaii; Hawaii Association of Health Plans; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Oncology Nursing Society; Alliance for Fertility Preservation; Hawaii Medical Service Association; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of the Attorney General; and Office of the Auditor.

Your Committee notes the concerns of the Department of the Attorney General in its written testimony regarding the following potential issues: possible delegation of legislative authority; impairment of existing contracts; and whether the State is required to defray the cost of mandated coverage. Your Committee respectfully requests your Committees on Health and Consumer Protection & Commerce to address these concerns, should the measure progress through the legislative process.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 139, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Holt, Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 902 Finance on H.B. No. 250

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Examine prior authorization practices in the State by requiring utilization review entities to report certain data to the State Health Planning and Development Agency;
- (2) Establish timelines for the approval of prior authorization requests to reduce delays for urgent and non-urgent health care services; and
- (3) Establish the Health Care Appropriateness and Necessity Working Group to make recommendations to improve and expedite the prior authorization process.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from 'Ahahui o nā Kauka. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Medical Service Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund Board of Trustees; Hawaii Association of Health Plans; Hawaii Medical Association; and American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Hawai'i Section.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 250, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Holt, Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 903 Finance on H.B. No. 303

The purpose of this measure is to amend the Healthcare Preceptor Income Tax Credit by expanding the types of providers who are eligible to receive tax credits for acting as preceptors and adding the Director of Health and residency programs with eligible students to the Preceptor Credit Assurance Committee.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; University of Hawai'i System; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Corporate Board of Directors; Hawai'i State Center for Nursing; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawai'i Academy of Physician Assistants; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawaii Primary Care Association; Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i; The Queen's Health Systems; Hawaii State Chiropractic Association; Hawai'i-American Nurses Association; Hawaii Medical Association; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; Hawaii Pharmacists Association; and numerous individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 303, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Holt, Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 904 Finance on H.B. No. 341

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist the Hawai'i Island Community Health Center in financing the purchase or lease of land on the island of Hawaii to develop primary care health care facilities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Island Community Health Center; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; and AlohaCare. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 341, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Holt, Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 905 Finance on H.B. No. 441

The purpose of this measure is to increase the cigarette tax beginning July 1, 2025, and allocate the increase in the cigarette tax revenues into certain special funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; University of Hawai'i Cancer Center; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hawai'i Pacific Health; The Queen's Health Systems; Hawaii Medical Association; and nine individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Kainehe Market; Kilani Market; Bionic Petroleum; China Town Liquor; Cigar Association of America, Inc.; Marukin Market; Retail Merchants of Hawaii; Discount Smoke Shop Hawaii; KCL Aloha Pacific Inc.; No. 1 Store; S&K Wholesale; Wawa Village Market; Young's Wine and Spirit; Hawaii Smokers Alliance; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Taxation; State Health Planning and Development Agency; Hina Mauka; Hawaii COPD Coalition; Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids; Tobacco-Free Kids Action Fund; Tax Foundation; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Taxpayers Protection Alliance; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; and eight individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 441, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Holt, Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 906 Finance on H.B. No. 952

The purpose of this measure is to establish a Parkinson's Disease Research Collection Database within the Department of Health.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition; Hawai'i Parkinson Association; The Queen's Health Systems; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 952, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Holt, Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 907 Finance on H.B. No. 650

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to provide education and support to local businesses regarding the United States Food and Drug Administration's guidance on colored sea salt.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Food Industry Association; and H.K. Enterprise Group, Inc., dba Hawaii Kai Corporation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 650, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 908 Finance on H.B. No. 1391

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Hawaii-Ireland Trade Commission within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from eleven individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1391, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 909 Finance on H.B. No. 159

The purpose of this measure is to clarify that the civil service exemption for personal service contracts with qualified community rehabilitation programs for certain maintenance services shall not cost more than \$850,000 in the aggregate per private person or entity, regardless of the number of contracts or qualified community rehabilitation programs utilized for the personal service.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 159, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Lee, Morikawa, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 910 Finance on H.B. No. 164

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require disbursing officers to notify employees within sixty days of determining that an indebtedness has occurred as a result of salary or wage overpayment; and
- (2) Change the amount that a disbursing officer may deduct from an employee's salary, wage, or compensation based on the employee's gross income.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services and Hawai'i State Public Library System.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 164, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Lee, Morikawa, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 911 Finance on H.B. No. 480

The purpose of this measure is to streamline the approval process for functional capacity exams to ensure automatic approval of such exams when requested by the attending physician for an injured employee under certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Department of Human Resources Development; and Hawaii Insurers Council.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 480, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Lee, Morikawa, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 912 Finance on H.B. No. 989

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Update the requirements for plans filed with the Registrar's Office;
- (2) Require the filing fees to be set pursuant to rules adopted by the Department of Accounting and General Services; and
- (3) Authorize the Department of Accounting and General Services to approve the format of plans and drawing scales.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 989, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Lee, Morikawa, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 913 Finance on H.B. No. 1152

The purpose of this measure is to permanently exempt the following positions from civil service:

- (1) The Software Developer Supervisor in the Department of Taxation; and
- (2) The Data Privacy Officer and Tax Business Analysts in the Office of the Director of Taxation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Taxation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1152, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Lee, Morikawa, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 914 Finance on H.B. No. 1424

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the transfer of funds appropriated for the purposes of filling vacancies to operating expenses.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Grassroot Institute of Hawaii. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Defense; Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; and Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services; Department of Human Services; Department of Agriculture; Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; and Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1424, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Lee, Morikawa, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 915 Finance on H.B. No. 542

The purpose of this measure is to expand and appropriate funds for the Hawaii Promise Program to provide scholarships for the unmet needs of qualified students at any four-year University of Hawaii campus who meet certain criteria.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; University of Hawai'i Student Caucus; and University of Hawaii Professional Assembly.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 542, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Lee, Morikawa, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 916 Finance on H.B. No. 546

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for the Aloha Intelligence Institute within the University of Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System and University of Hawaii Professional Assembly.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 546, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Lee, Morikawa, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 917 Finance on H.B. No. 718

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine for:

- (1) Faculty positions in the fields of cardiovascular biology, tropical medicine, and quantitative health biostatistics; and
- (2) An environmental health and safety officer staff position.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; and University of Hawaii Professional Assembly.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 718, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Lee, Morikawa, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 918 Finance on H.B. No. 1170

The purpose of this measure is to require the University of Hawaii to grant the resident tuition fee for enrollment at any University of Hawaii campus to individuals who have graduated from a Hawaii high school and are enrolling in an undergraduate degree program, under certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; Department of Education; University of Hawai'i Student Caucus; and Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for Education.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1170, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Lee, Morikawa, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 919 Finance on H.B. No. 1320

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the University of Hawaii System to collect, analyze, and publicly report certain data on graduate outcomes; and
- (2) Require and appropriate funds for the development and maintenance of a graduate outcomes dashboard, including the establishment of two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) positions with the University of Hawaii System's Office of the Vice President for Academic Strategy to support the development and maintenance of the graduate outcomes dashboard.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1320, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Lee, Morikawa, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 920 Finance on H.B. No. 1345

The purpose of this measure is to require the Board of Regents to grant a waiver on all tuition and mandatory fees for a resident student enrolled in a four-year college campus of the University of Hawaii System with an education program or that offers an education degree for the semester or term during which the student chooses to complete the student teaching requirement necessary to earn a degree in education.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; and Hawai'i State Teachers Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1345, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Lee, Morikawa, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 921 Finance on H.B. No. 1164

The purpose of this measure is to restore the Highway Revenue Bond authorization for the Department of Transportation for highway capital improvement projects authorized in Act 164, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, as amended by Act 230, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1164, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 922 Finance on H.B. No. 1166

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds out of the State Highway Fund for deposit into and expenditure out of the Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program Special Fund for the establishment and maintenance of the Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1166, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 923 Finance on H.B. No. 1167

The purpose of this measure is to make an emergency appropriation out of the State Highway Fund to the Department of Transportation to enforce the Motor Carrier Law.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and Hawaii Transportation Association.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1167, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 924 Finance on H.B. No. 1231

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize a certain percentage of fines collected for disregarding a steady red signal pursuant to a photo red light imaging detector system installed in a school zone to be deposited into the Safe Routes to School Program Special Fund;
- (2) Authorize the State to prioritize the installation of photo red light imaging detector systems in school zones if the State establishes a photo red light imaging detector system; and
- (3) Require the Department of Transportation to consult with the Department of Education in determining which school zones to install a photo red light imaging system.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Bicycling League; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary and Department of Transportation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1231, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 925 Finance on H.B. No. 1260

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require a county with a population of two hundred fifty thousand or less, in collaboration with the Department of Transportation, to establish a Summer Streets Pilot Program that closes vehicular traffic and repurposes roads for pedestrian and cyclist use, outdoor events, and other community-driven activities;
- (2) Require a participating county to submit an initial proposal to the Director of Transportation; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for the Summer Streets Pilot Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Department of Health; Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Hawai'i Bicycling League; and three individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1260, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 926 Finance on H.B. No. 177

The purpose of this measure is to make the issuance or renewal of a civil identification card free of charge.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center and nine individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Transportation and the Department of Customer Services of the City and County of Honolulu. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 177, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 927 Finance on H.B. No. 228

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the counties to adopt rules for the use of electronic license plates;
- (2) Prohibit the use of license plate flipping devices; and
- (3) Prohibit intentionally obscuring a license plate with a cover or shield.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Hawaii Transportation Association; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Customer Services of the City and County of Honolulu.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 228, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 928 Finance on H.B. No. 235

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Transportation to expand the use of photo red light imaging detector systems and automated speed enforcement systems to locations on the North Shore of Oahu.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary and Department of Transportation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 235, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 929 Finance on H.B. No. 667

The purpose of this measure is to require:

- (1) The Department of Transportation or appropriate county department when disposing of a deceased cat or dog from a public roadway to scan the animal for a microchip, record certain information, and report that information to the appropriate county animal services or animal service contractors; and
- (2) A county agency assisting with the disposal of a deceased cat or dog found on a public roadway under the jurisdiction of the State to collaborate with the Department of Transportation in utilizing the Department's microchip scanners.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Hawaiian Humane Society; and three individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 667, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 930 Finance on H.B. No. 697

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow authorized employees of the Department of Transportation and Department of Law Enforcement, in addition to county police departments, to perform certain actions in reviewing recorded images produced by automated speed enforcement systems; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to the Department of Transportation to establish and implement the Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from three individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 697, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 931 Finance on H.B. No. 939

The purpose of this measure is to establish a liquor tax rate for low alcohol by volume spirits beverages.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Kauai Beer Company; Johnson Brothers of Hawaii, Inc.; and Kōloa Rum Co. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Beer Institute and Wine Institute. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Maui Brewing Co.; Big Island Brewhaus; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 939, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 932 Finance on H.B. No. 958

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require all electric bicycles to be operated only with all wheels on the ground at all times, with certain exceptions;
- (2) Prohibit certain actions while operating an electric bicycle;
- (3) Prohibit the operation of high-speed electric devices in certain locations;
- (4) Require manufacturers and distributors to apply a label to electric bicycles;
- (5) Require distributors to place a sign at or near the point of sale regarding the minimum age to operate class 3 electric bicycles;
- (6) Define "electric bicycle" in place of "low-speed electric bicycle" and divide electric bicycles into three classes;
- (7) Define "electric micro mobility device" and apply the same regulations for electric foot scooters to electric micro mobility devices;
- (8) Prohibit a person under the age of sixteen from operating a class 3 bicycle;
- (9) Prohibit a person from riding a class 3 electric bicycle on a sidewalk;
- (10) Authorize a person to ride a class 1 or class 2 electric bicycle on a sidewalk at a speed not exceeding ten miles per hour;
- (11) Prohibit a person from operating a bicycle or electric foot scooter under the age of eighteen without a helmet;
- (12) Repeal the requirement that moped drivers use bicycle lanes; and
- (13) Substitute the word "motor drive cycle" with the word "motor scooter".

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Department of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu; Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition; Ulupono Initiative; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Honolulu Police Department; Hawai'i Bicycling League; Get Fit Kauai; and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 958, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 933 Finance on H.B. No. 1156

The purpose of this measure is to increase the total principal amount of special facility revenue bonds that may be issued by the Department of Transportation for harbor improvements.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Aukahi Energy; and Hawai'i Harbors Users Group.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1156, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 934 Finance on H.B. No. 1161

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Beginning July 1, 2028, authorize a county to impose a mileage-based road usage charge for electric vehicles and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles;
- (2) Repeal the requirement for the Department of Transportation to establish county subaccounts within the State Highway Fund;
- (3) Clarify the disposition of funds for the state mileage-based road usage charge;
- (4) Beginning July 1, 2026, extend the state mileage-based road-usage charge to plug-in hybrid electric vehicles;
- (5) Clarify the rate and calculation of the state mileage-based road usage charge;
- (6) Specify that rental motor vehicle companies may visibly pass on the costs of the mileage-based road usage charges to the consumer; and
- (7) Appropriate funds for the State Mileage-based Road Usage Charge Program and continued implementation of the state mileage-based road user charge.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Energy Office; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; two members of the Maui County Council; and Department of Customer Services of the City and County of Honolulu. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Transportation; Office of the Mayor of the County of Kaua'i; Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association; Alliance for Automotive Innovation; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Ulupono Initiative; Avis Budget Group; Enterprise Mobility; Servco Pacific Inc.; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; Hertz Corporation; and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1161, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13; Ayes with Reservations (Reyes Oda). Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 935 Finance on H.B. No. 1052

The purpose of this measure is to provide clear authorization and guidance for the Public Utilities Commission to implement and manage, through the Universal Service Program, the provision of essential telecommunications services for individuals with print disabilities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of Human Services; Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Public Utilities Commission; and National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1052, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 936 Finance on H.B. No. 862

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the use of motorcoaches, small buses, and vans for school bus services, under certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 862, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 937 Finance on H.B. No. 1088

The purpose of this measure is to exempt housing developed by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands from school impact fees.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and School Facilities Authority. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1088, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 938 Finance on H.B. No. 422

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal School Impact Fees; and

- (2) Abolish and transfer unencumbered balances of the School Impact Fee subaccounts and certain Fair Share Contribution accounts to the School Facilities Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Office of Housing of the City and County of Honolulu; Hawai'i YIMBY; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Libertarian Party of Hawaii; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from HI Good Neighbor and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education; School Facilities Authority; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; and LIMBY Hawai'i.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 422, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15; Ayes with Reservations (Grandinetti, Hussey, Reyes Oda). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 939 Finance on H.B. No. 548

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii to issue revenue bonds for the acquisition of the former Saint Francis School campus located at 2707 Pamoia Road in Honolulu; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the acquisition.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System and seven individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 548, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12; Ayes with Reservations (Reyes Oda). Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Lee, Morikawa, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 940 Finance on H.B. No. 433

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for reentry services to connect offenders with community-based services.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission; Office of the Public Defender; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and Community Alliance on Prisons.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 433, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 941 Finance on H.B. No. 596

The purpose of this measure is to clarify the types of events that constitute disasters and emergencies for the purposes of emergency management.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Grassroot Institute of Hawaii and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 596, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 942 Finance on H.B. No. 1002

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Extend the term of the Oversight Coordinator of the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission, beginning July 1, 2025; and
- (2) Clarify that the Oversight Coordinator has the general authority to inspect agencies and correctional facilities without notice.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Office of the Public Defender; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission; Community Alliance on Prisons; and American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1002, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 943 Finance on H.B. No. 1059

The purpose of this measure is to convert the Emergency Management Specialist series positions at level V and higher in the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency from civil service status to exempt status.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Defense and Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1059, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 944 Finance on H.B. No. 1296

The purpose of this measure is to establish timely notice and reporting requirements to the Legislature by the Governor regarding the allotment, transfer, or expenditure of monies in the Major Disaster Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of the Governor and Department of Budget and Finance.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1296, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 945 Finance on H.B. No. 108

The purpose of this measure is to allow the direct shipment of beer and distilled spirits by certain liquor licensees.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the County of Hawai'i Department of Liquor Control; Hana Koa Brewing Co.; Maui Brewing Co.; Big Island Brewhaus; Mana Up; Kauai Beer Company; Brewers Association; Lanikai Brewing Co.; Kuleana Spirits, Inc.; Kōloa Rum Co.; Ola Brew; Kaua'i Island Brewing Company, LLC; Ko Hana Distillers; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Hawaii Transportation Association; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Food Industry Association and Hawaii Liquor Wholesalers Association.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 108, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 946 Finance on H.B. No. 1055

The purpose of this measure is to make an emergency appropriation out of the Public Utilities Commission Special Fund for the Public Utilities Commission to procure the services of consultants with technical expertise to assist with the efforts to strengthen the resilience and reliability of electric utility services in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Hawaiian Electric. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Public Utilities Commission.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1055, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 947 Finance on H.B. No. 1449

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Agriculture to adopt rules and administrative penalties related to the Plant Care Component Program; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the Plant Care Component Program and certain positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Invasive Species Council; Carol Kwan Consulting LLC; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1449, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 948 Finance on H.B. No. 72

The purpose of this measure is to establish a regulatory system for pharmacy technicians and require pharmacy technicians to be registered beginning on January 1, 2026.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i at Hilo; Walgreens Co.; Moloka'i Drugs; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Board of Pharmacy.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 72, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Holt, Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 949 Finance on H.B. No. 213

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Healthcare Education Loan Repayment Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Governor; Department of Health; University of Hawai'i at Mānoa John A. Burns School of Medicine; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Corporate Board of Directors; Hawai'i State Center for Nursing; State Health Planning and Development Agency; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Hawai'i Section; Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i; The Queen's Health Systems; Hawaii Dental Association;

Hawaii Association of Health Plans; AlohaCare; Hawaii Medical Association; Hawai'i – American Nurses Association; American Academy of Pediatrics, Hawai'i Chapter; Hawaii Medical Service Association; and numerous individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 213, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Holt, Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 950 Finance on H.B. No. 237

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Family Health Services Division of the Department of Health to establish and oversee peer-to-peer support programs for children from birth to age five and their families.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Commit to Keiki; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Family Hui Hawaii; AlohaCare; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Association for Infant Mental Health in Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services; Department of Health; and Executive Office on Early Learning.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 237, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Holt, Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 951 Finance on H.B. No. 700

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Cognitive Assessments for Medicare Beneficiaries Pilot Program within the Executive Office on Aging to provide certain Medicare Part B beneficiaries with a cognitive assessment for the early detection of dementia; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to the Executive Office on Aging for the costs associated with the data management and reporting requirements of the pilot program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; State Health Planning and Development Agency; AARP Hawai'i; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawai'i Psychological Association; Hawai'i Parkinson Association; Hawaii Pacific Neuroscience; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Executive Office on Aging; State Council on Mental Health; Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; and Alzheimer's Association-Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 700, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Holt, Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 952 Finance on H.B. No. 714

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to support educational training programs to expand the State's health care workforce, including health care certificate programs and classroom renovations for health care training in public high schools and education programs that support Certified Nurse Assistants in becoming Licensed Practical Nurses.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; State Health Planning and Development Agency; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Corporate Board of Directors; Hawai'i State Center for Nursing; Hilo Benioff Medical Center; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i; Liberty Dialysis Hawai'i; The Queen's Health Systems; Hawaii Medical Association; Hawai'i – American Nurses Association; Hawaii Medical Service Association; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; University of Hawai'i System; and Healthcare Association of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 714, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Holt, Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 953 Finance on H.B. No. 716

The purpose of this measure is to establish a grant program within the Department of Health, to be administered by the State Health Planning and Development Agency, to support a certified, hosted, and maintained health information technology infrastructure and the implementation of interoperable health information technologies for federally qualified health centers, rural health clinics, Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program centers, and Native Hawaiian health centers in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Waikiki Health; Hawai'i Pacific Health; OCHIN; and Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; State Health Planning and Development Agency; and Hawaii Primary Care Association.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 716, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Holt, Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 954 Finance on H.B. No. 756

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the sale of, offer for sale, or possession with the intent to sell or offer to sell, all flavored nicotine products and nicotine product flavor enhancers, including products with menthol, and prohibit the mislabeling of e-liquid products as nicotine-free.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Kailua High School; Kihei Charter School; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; Hawai'i Public Health Association; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Parents And Children Together; Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i; Hawai'i Association of Independent Schools; Hina Mauka; Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition; Hawai'i-American Nurses Association; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawaii COPD Coalition; Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids; Tobacco-Free Kids Action Fund; AlohaCare; The Friends of Kamalani & Lydgate Park; University of Hawaii Student Health Advisory Council; Hawaii Dental Association; Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i; Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i Youth Council; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Kainehe Liquor; BMA Mart; ABC Stores; Cigarettes and Things; Bionic Petroleum; China Town Liquor; Cigar Association of America, Inc.; Marukin Market; Retail Merchants of Hawaii; Discount Smoke Shop Hawaii; KCL Aloha Pacific Inc.; No. 1 Store; S&K Wholesale; Nonstop Convenience; Young's Wine & Spirit; Wawa Village Market; Kona Liquor Store; Hawaii Smokers Alliance; Bevmart; Ewa Pantry; Kakaako Smokes; and six individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Tax Foundation; and Taxpayers Protection Alliance.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 756, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Holt, Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 955 Finance on H.B. No. 784

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the operation of an additional advanced life support ambulance to be based in the Makalei area on the island of Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; State Health Planning and Development Agency Hawai'i Island Subarea Advisory Council; State Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Corporate Board of Directors; Office of the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i; American Medical Response; Kohala Coast Resort Association; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 784, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Holt, Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 956 Finance on H.B. No. 1179

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Provide a statutory framework for the licensure of rural emergency hospitals by the Department of Health; and
- (2) Provide for the continuation of Medicaid policy protections for hospitals transitioning to a rural emergency hospital designation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Corporate Board of Directors; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Maui Health System; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1179, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Holt, Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 957 Finance on H.B. No. 1300

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the University of Hawaii Cancer Center to conduct a multiethnic cohort study focusing on the social determinants of health, lifestyles, environmental exposures, and resilience factors of Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, and Filipinos, including an analysis of the health effects and risks of individuals living in close proximity to landfills in Nanakuli, Oahu.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; University of Hawai'i Cancer Center; John A. Burns School of Medicine at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa; Hawaii Primary Care Association; The Queen's Health Systems; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center; and four individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1300, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Holt, Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 958 Finance on H.B. No. 1389

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the City and County of Honolulu for the expansion of the Feral Chicken Program and to the Vector Control Branch of the Department of Health for a statewide education campaign for the feeding of feral animals.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Agriculture; Department of Customer Services of the City and County of Honolulu; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Animal Rights Hawai'i.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1389, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Holt, Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 959 Finance on H.B. No. 1427

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Department of Agriculture to prevent, monitor, and respond to avian influenza in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; State Health Planning and Development Agency; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association; Hawaii Food Industry Association; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Department of Agriculture.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1427, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Holt, Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 960 Finance on H.B. No. 1462

The purpose of this measure is to expand the Crisis Intervention and Diversion Services Program by establishing two crisis intervention and diversion services sites on Oahu, including one site located in an area with a disproportionate number of individuals with mental health conditions, substance use disorders, or homelessness.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Community Alliance on Prisons; Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center; and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1462, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Holt, Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 961 Finance on H.B. No. 244

The purpose of this measure is to provide increased funding for the Department of Human Services to collaborate with contracted community-based organizations to address the need for social services in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Easterseals Hawaii; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; YWCA of Kaua'i; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; Parents And Children Together; Hawai'i Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Community Alliance on Prisons; Hawai'i True Cost Coalition; The Institute for Human Services, Inc; Aloha United Way; Child & Family Service; EPIC 'Ohana; Goodwill Hawaii; The Mediation Center of the Pacific, Inc.; Lanakila Pacific; Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.; Partners in Development Foundation; Responsive Caregivers of Hawaii; Samaritan Counseling Center Hawai'i; Spirit Horse Ranch; YMCA of Honolulu; AlohaCare; Partners in Care – O'ahu Continuum of Care; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Share Your Mana; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; U.S.VETS Wai'anae; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services and Hawaii Coalition for Child Protective Reform.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 244, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 962 Finance on H.B. No. 431

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Appropriate funds for the continued implementation of the Kauhale Initiative; and
- (2) Create the Supportive Housing Special Fund to assist the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to facilitate the development of mixed-income rental housing projects in which some or all the units are targeted to special needs individuals or families who require supportive services.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hawai'i State Youth Commission; Office of Housing of the City and County of Honolulu; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; The Institute for Human Services, Inc.; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Young Democrats of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Partners in Care - O'ahu Continuum of Care; Maui Chamber of Commerce; LIMBY Hawai'i; Pacific Housing Assistance Corporation; and Hawaii Young Adults in Transition.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Human Services; State Procurement Office; and Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 431, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 963 Finance on H.B. No. 613

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Make the Safe Spaces for Youth Pilot Program a permanent program within the Office of Youth Services; and
- (2) Provide funding for a permanent Safe Spaces for Youth Program within the Office of Youth Services.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services; Office of the Public Defender; Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; Pride at Work - Hawai'i; Imua Alliance; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Rainbow Family 808; Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i; and nine individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Youth Services.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 613, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 964 Finance on H.B. No. 692

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Expand the Preschool Open Doors Program's eligibility criteria; and
- (2) Repeal the requirement that Preschool Open Doors Program providers be accredited.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor; Department of Human Services; Early Learning Board; Executive Office on Early Learning; Department of Community Services of the City and County of Honolulu; Kamehameha Schools; Parents And Children Together; Ka Ohana O Na Pua; Indivisible Hawai'i Statewide Network; Pride at Work - Hawai'i; American Association of University Women of Hawaii; Save Medicaid Hawaii; Kalaheo Elementary School PTSA; Hawaii Clubhouse Coalition; Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Early Childhood Action Strategy and Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 692, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 965 Finance on H.B. No. 702

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to increase the funding for Medicaid in-home services, conditioned on the Department of Human Services obtaining the maximum federal matching funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging; Disability and Communication Access Board; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; AARP Hawai'i; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawaii Chapter of the Home Care Association of America; AlohaCare; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 702, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 966 Finance on H.B. No. 703

The purpose of this measure is to extend the sunset date for the State Rent Supplement Program for Kupuna to June 30, 2028.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Executive Office on Aging; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; AARP Hawai'i; The Institute for Human Services, Inc.; LIMBY Hawai'i; and four individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 703, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 967 Finance on H.B. No. 705

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a temporary Medi-Medi Project within the Hawaii State Health Insurance Assistance Program to assist older adults, Medicare beneficiaries, individuals with disabilities, and other underserved populations who may qualify for various low-income subsidy programs to gain access to their benefits;
- (2) Require the Executive Office on Aging to submit annual reports to the Legislature on the Medi-Medi Project; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for the Hawaii State Health Insurance Assistance Program, including for staff and operating expenses.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from AARP Hawai'i; Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Executive Office on Aging.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 705, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 968 Finance on H.B. No. 713

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Department of Human Services to conduct a rate study for Medicaid home health services in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Healthcare Association of Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 713, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 969 Finance on H.B. No. 900

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish within the Judiciary a working group for legal services for youth in the child welfare system; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the working group.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Department of Human Services; Office of Wellness and Resilience; Hawaii Coalition for Child Protective Reform; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; National Center for Youth Law; Epic 'Ohana; HI H.O.P.E.S. Initiative; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Mālama 'Ohana Working Group; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 900, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 970 Finance on H.B. No. 1079

The purpose of this measure is to direct and appropriate funds for the Office of Wellness and Resilience to collaborate with the Department of Human Services to, either directly or by contract, design, administer, and implement a program for trauma-informed organizational assessments and a training curriculum for the Department of Human Services Child Welfare Services Branch staff.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services; Office of Wellness and Resilience; State Council on Mental Health; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hawaii Coalition for Child Protective Reform; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; and three individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1079, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 971 Finance on H.B. No. 1099

The purpose of this measure is to make an emergency appropriation for fiscal year 2024-2025 to the Department of Human Services to support the necessary modifications to the ongoing development of a new eligibility system.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; and Hawai'i Farmers Union. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1099, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 972 Finance on H.B. No. 1349

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Human Services to authorize Medicaid coverage through the Children's Health Insurance Program to income-qualified pregnant persons and children regardless of immigration status.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Indivisible Hawai'i Healthcare Team; Ka Ohana O Na Pua; Save Medicaid Hawaii; Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights; AlohaCare; Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights; Hawai'i Women Lawyers; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services and The Legal Clinic.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1349, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14; Ayes with Reservations (Reyes Oda). Noes, 1 (Alcos). Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 973 Finance on H.B. No. 1382

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Department of Human Services to contract with a non-profit specializing in domestic violence to provide training and staff to be housed on-site in Child Welfare Services Branch offices to support all aspects of screening for and addressing domestic violence within a case.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawaii Coalition for Child Protective Reform; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services and Mālama 'Ohana Working Group.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1382, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 974 Finance on H.B. No. 1477

The purpose of this measure is to clarify that the monthly needs allowance afforded to individuals living in certain long-term care facilities is not intended to replace or affect funds received as a state supplemental payment for domiciliary care and shall be supplemental to any funds provided to a recipient as a state supplemental payment for domiciliary care.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Easterseals Hawaii; ILWU Local 1000 Home Health Care Operators; Sebastian's Arch LLC; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1477, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 975 Finance on H.B. No. 1007

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Hawaii Community Development Authority to cooperate with or assist public and private sector entities to engage in projects that improve the State;
- (2) Establish the transit-oriented development infrastructure improvement program under the Hawaii Community Development Authority; and
- (3) Repeal the transit-oriented development infrastructure improvement district and board.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Hawai'i Community Development Authority; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; and Hawai'i Construction Alliance.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1007, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 976 Finance on H.B. No. 1144

The purpose of this measure is to allow the Department of Land and Natural Resources to employ non-civil service professional and technical staff in its State Historic Preservation Division.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and Department of Land and Natural Resources. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1144, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 977 Finance on H.B. No. 1220

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to support efforts of the Division of Aquatic Resources of the Department of Land and Natural Resources in the removal of majano anemone from Kaneohe Bay.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Invasive Species Council; Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Mālama Learning Center; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Windward Coalition.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1220, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 978 Finance on H.B. No. 1316

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Beginning 1/1/2026, require rental vessels to be registered and numbered with the Department of Land and Natural Resources before being rented or leased, or offered for rent or lease, by the public for transiting the navigable waters of a state park; and
- (2) Require registration fees to be deposited into the State Parks Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Outfitters Kauai Ltd; Wailua Kayak Adventures; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Kayak Kauai.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1316, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 979 Finance on H.B. No. 1359

The purpose of this measure is to address flooding in residential areas by requiring the Board of Land and Natural Resources to establish a grant program to improve drainage systems, support mitigation measures, and provide resources for counties, local communities, and homeowners.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1359, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 980 Finance on H.B. No. 1001

The purpose of this measure is to establish, and appropriate funds to, the Maui Wildfires Settlement Trust Fund to pay eligible claims pursuant to the Maui wildfires settlement agreements.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one member of the Maui County Council. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1001, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Kusch, Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 981 Finance on H.B. No. 1045

The purpose of this measure is to make emergency appropriations for fiscal year 2024-2025 to the Department of Accounting and General Services and the Judiciary for personnel costs, including payroll and fringe benefits, of affected Department of Law Enforcement personnel.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Department of Law Enforcement; and Department of Accounting and General Services. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1045, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Kusch, Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 982 Finance on H.B. No. 1174

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow for the interest earned on payments under protest in the litigated claims fund to be paid in nontaxation cases if the claimant prevails; and
- (2) Establish a procedure for the disposition of monies and refiling of actions when a payment under protest suit is filed prematurely.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1174, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Kusch, Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 983 Finance on H.B. No. 1483

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an adjudication system and procedures to process fireworks infractions;
- (2) Amend and establish various definitions and penalties for fireworks offenses, including establishing heightened penalties under certain circumstances;
- (3) Establish various criminal offenses and penalties related to fireworks or articles pyrotechnics; and
- (4) Appropriate funds to the Judiciary to implement this measure.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Honolulu Police Department; Hawaiian Humane Society; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Libertarian Party of Hawaii; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Phantom Fireworks; TNT Fireworks; and Hawaii Explosives & Pyrotechnics, Inc.

Your Committee notes the suggested amendments from the Department of the Attorney General in its written testimony to clarify that those holding fireworks permits or licenses may continue to use their permits or licenses and to clarify which law enforcement officers may be designated as administrative inspectors. Your Committee further notes the concerns of the Office of the Public Defender regarding the concurrent trial provision in this measure and the office's assertion that it is the lack of enforcement, rather than the lack or severity of penalties, that has resulted in the low number of charges brought under existing fireworks control laws.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1483, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Kusch, Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 984 Finance on H.B. No. 437

The purpose of this measure is to require and appropriate funds for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to establish an out-of-state office in the Philippines.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Oahu Filipino Community Council; Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights; Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from eleven individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 437, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 985 Finance on H.B. No. 455

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Hawaii Start-Up Business Loan Program to encourage entrepreneurship, economic diversification, and resilience; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the Hawaii Start-Up Business Loan Program and a Business Loan Officer position.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Holomua Collaborative; Mana Up; Hawai'i Community Foundation; aio; HPM Building Supply; Title Guaranty of Hawai'i; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and Hawaii Food Industry Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Budget and Finance; Department of the Attorney General; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee notes the concerns raised in testimony by the Department of the Attorney General regarding whether the establishment of the Hawaii Start-Up Business Loan Program Special Fund satisfies the criteria for the establishment and continuation of special funds under section 37-52.3, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 455, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 986 Finance on H.B. No. 796

The purpose of this measure is to require income tax credits established or renewed after December 31, 2025, to include a five-year sunset or a gradual reduction over a three-year period, beginning with the sixth year of the credit.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Honolulu Film Office of the City and County of Honolulu; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; SAG-AFTRA Hawaii Local; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Coalition Earth; IATSE Local 665; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Labor Caucus; Pride at Work – Hawai'i; Hawai'i Ironworkers Stabilization Fund; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 796, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14; Ayes with Reservations (Grandinetti, Hussey, Reyes Oda). Noes, 1 (Alcos). Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 987 Finance on H.B. No. 934

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Transfer the Hawaii Broadband and Digital Equity Office from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services in the Department of Accounting and General Services;
- (2) Establish the Broadband and Digital Equity Special Fund; and
- (3) Appropriate funds into and out of the Broadband and Digital Equity Special Fund for the purposes of the fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Lieutenant Governor; University of Hawai'i System; and Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Office of Enterprise Technology Services; Hawaiian Telecom; and two individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 934, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 988 Finance on H.B. No. 1405

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish specific deadlines within the facilitated application process to obtain a permit;
- (2) Require the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to establish certain resources and processes to help streamline permit applications; and
- (3) Establish and appropriate funds for certain positions within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Operating Engineers Industry Stabilization Fund Political Action Committee; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Hawaiian Telcom; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; and Hawaii Food Industry Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committee notes the concerns of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism in its written testimony that significant amendments regarding structure and resources are necessary to successfully implement this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1405, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 989 Finance on H.B. No. 1406

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for the Intergovernmental Task Force for Permit Simplification to identify actions taken, challenges encountered, and legislative measures necessary to facilitate, expedite, and coordinate state and intergovernmental development permit processes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Public Utilities Commission; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Hawaiian Telcom; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; and Hawaii Food Industry Association.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1406, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 990 Finance on H.B. No. 381

The purpose of this measure is to increase the procurement thresholds for small purchases.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; Department of Transportation; Office of the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu; and Honolulu Police Department. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the State Procurement Office.

Your Committee finds that the existing small purchase dollar thresholds have not been adjusted since 1997, despite significant inflation and rising costs of goods, services, and construction. This measure ensures that state agencies can maintain their intended purchasing power while preserving efficiency and competition in the procurement process.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the procurement thresholds for small purchases to unspecified amounts; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 381, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 381, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 991 Finance on H.B. No. 988

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit a procurement officer from disclosing a competing offeror's proposal or evaluation scores, except the summary of scores, during a debriefing requested by a non-selected offeror; and
- (2) Authorize the disclosure of a competing offeror's proposal or evaluation scores after a protest is resolved and the contract is executed.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services; Department of Transportation; and State Procurement Office. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the General Contractors Association of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the purpose of a debriefing is to explain a purchasing agency's overall ranking of all proposals and provide a summary of the rationale for any awards. Public disclosure of competing proposals that contain confidential information prior to final contract execution could foreseeably give an unfair competitive advantage to other offerors. Your Committee further finds that this measure provides clear guidance to purchasing agencies regarding what cannot be disclosed at a debriefing, in order to maintain integrity, confidentiality, and fairness during the procurement process.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 988, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 988, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 992 Finance on H.B. No. 1155

The purpose of this measure is to exempt from the Hawaii Public Procurement Code contracts by government bodies to procure construction projects for which procurement by competitive means is either not practicable or not advantageous to the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and State Procurement Office. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260 and Subcontractors Association of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that challenges often arise in the procurement process for construction projects. For example, there may be situations when it is not practicable or advantageous to procure construction using the usual methods or criteria in the Hawaii Public Procurement Code. This measure therefore allows for innovative procurement methods that take into consideration the complexities involved in government procurement for construction. Your Committee further finds that this measure offers a balanced solution that provides for increased efficiency and enhanced adaptability while also maintaining accountability in furtherance of the public interest.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1155, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1155, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15; Ayes with Reservations (Alcos). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 993 Finance on H.B. No. 1173

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Taxation to:

- (1) State the assessment date on certificates of tax liens; and
- (2) Issue certificates of discharge when the tax liability on which a lien is based has been satisfied or has become unenforceable by lapse of time.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; and Hawaii Association of Public Accountants.

Your Committee finds that Act 166, Session Laws of Hawaii 2009, created a fifteen-year statute of limitations on certain collection actions on tax assessments, specifically by prohibiting a levy or proceeding in court under chapter 231, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to collect tax if the levy or proceeding is initiated after the fifteen-year period. By requiring the inclusion of the tax liability assessment date on tax lien certificates and requiring the Department of Taxation to issue a certificate of discharge for satisfied or unenforceable liabilities, this measure would, among other things, inform taxpayers of how much time they have to pay off the liability and may better align state tax collection practices with federal practices.

Your Committee further finds that certain sections of state law relating to income tax, general excise tax, transient accommodations tax, use tax, fuel tax, conveyance tax, rental motor vehicle and tour vehicle surcharge tax, and insurance tax contain provisions that may suspend or extend the fifteen-year statute of limitations on collection after assessment. Your Committee believes that this measure should be clarified to require the Department of Taxation to issue certificates of discharge for liabilities that have been satisfied or have become unenforceable under those sections.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the applicable taxes that are subject to the fifteen-year statute of limitations imposed by Act 166, Session Laws of Hawaii 2009;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1173, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1173, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 994 Finance on H.B. No. 1297

The purpose of this measure is to amend the Procurement Code by:

- (1) Setting a time limit for submitting bid protests;
- (2) Making the seventy-five day limit for a written decision on a protest apply to any contract awarded by competitive sealed bid or competitive sealed proposal;
- (3) Capping the protest bond amount; and
- (4) Repealing the requirement that the administrative hearing office find that an appeal is frivolous or in bad faith before the protest bond is forfeited to the State by the non-prevailing party.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the General Contractors Association of Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Transportation and State Procurement Office.

Your Committee finds that procurement bid challenges often result in project delays, lapsing of funds, and project cost increases. Protests frequently involve complex issues, and the strict statutory deadlines may cause government agencies to rush to resolve protests, which may cause errors. Your Committee further finds that clarification to the existing procurement protest procedures is therefore needed to ensure timely resolution of disputes. Accordingly, this measure establishes a clear timeframe for resolving protests and introduces a monetary cap on protest bond amounts, which will promote fairness while also discouraging frivolous claims.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee notes the suggested amendments by the State Procurement Office and Department of Transportation, which request a bond cap amount of \$1,000,000 and \$1,500,000 respectively.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1297, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1297, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 995 Finance on H.B. No. 1414

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the head of a procurement agency to award a contract to a bidder who is not the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, for procurements conducted by competitive sealed bidding, if the head of the procuring agency determines that the award is most beneficial to taxpayers or otherwise in the best interests of the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services; State Procurement Office; Department of Budget and Fiscal Services, City and County of Honolulu; and General Contractors Association of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the existing procurement process prioritizes awarding contracts to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, but may not always serve the best interests of the State. This measure provides greater flexibility by allowing the purchasing agency, with proper approval, to award contracts based on overall benefit to taxpayers while maintaining transparency and fiscal responsibility.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1414, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1414, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 996 Finance on H.B. No. 794

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds and to make the constitutionally-required findings that the bond issuance will not cause the state debt limit to be exceeded.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that article VII, section 13, of the Hawaii State Constitution requires the Legislature to include a declaration of findings in every general law authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds, which shall declare that the issuance of state bonds authorized will not cause the debt limit to be exceeded at the time of issuance. Your Committee further finds that the proceeds generated from the general obligation bonds authorized to be issued under this measure will be used to finance the fulfillment of important state objectives.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the provisions that allow the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to secure a line of credit or other instrument of indebtedness during fiscal biennium 2025-2027 for the Bond Volume Cap Recycling Program;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 794, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 794, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 997 Finance on H.B. No. 795

The purpose of this measure is to provide a tax credit to taxpayers and make deposits to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund and Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust Fund pursuant to Article VII, section 6, of the Hawaii State Constitution.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that when the balance of the general fund at the close of each of two successive fiscal years exceeds five percent of the general fund revenues for each of those two fiscal years, Article VII, Section 6, of the Hawaii State Constitution requires the Legislature to dispose of excess general fund revenues through a tax credit or refund to state taxpayers; a deposit into one or more funds as supplemental sources of funding in times of an emergency, economic downturn, or unforeseen reduction in revenue; or an appropriation of general funds for the pre-payment of debt service for general obligation bonds or pension or other post-employment benefit liabilities accrued for state employees. This measure is a vehicle for taking those constitutionally mandated actions.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 795, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 795, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 998 Finance on H.B. No. 1145

The purpose of this measure is to conform Hawaii income and estate and generation-skipping transfer tax laws to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended as of December 31, 2024.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that this annual conformity measure is submitted by the Department of Taxation to ensure state income tax and state estate and generation-skipping transfer tax laws conform to the federal Internal Revenue Code as it exists on December 31 of the preceding calendar year. This measure updates state tax laws with changes made to the federal Internal Revenue Code during the past year that are appropriate for Hawaii law.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Conforming to sections 1, 2, and 3 of the Federal Disaster Tax Relief Act of 2023 relating to disaster tax relief; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1145, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1145, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 999 Finance on H.B. No. 1146

The purpose of this measure is to require all qualified members claiming a credit for pass-through entity taxation to adjust their income to include the qualified member's share of taxes paid by an electing pass-through entity, for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Taxation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that taxpayers claiming the pass-through entity tax credit receive a double benefit in the form of the credit and a reduction to their taxable income because the entity is permitted to deduct the pass-through entity taxes paid on the member's behalf. This measure requires any qualified member claiming a pass-through entity credit to add the taxes back to the qualified member's taxable income to eliminate the double benefit that currently exists.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1146, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1146, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1000 Finance on H.B. No. 1147

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify that nonresidents who claim the Refundable Earned Income Tax Credit are required to adjust the amount claimed using the ratio of their Hawaii adjusted gross income to federal adjusted gross income; and
- (2) Eliminate the unlimited carryforward on nonrefundable earned income tax credits claimed for tax year 2022.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Taxation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that existing law requires the adjustment of the Refundable Earned Income Tax Credit for part-year residents to reflect their share of income attributable to the State but is silent in regard to nonresident claims. This measure promotes tax equity by standardizing claims for the Refundable Earned Income Tax Credit for part-year residents and nonresidents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1147, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1147, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1001 Finance on H.B. No. 1149

The purpose of this measure is to repeal the general excise tax exemption for amounts received by:

- (1) Independent sugar cane farmers; and
- (2) Contractors of the Patient-Centered Community Care Program that is established by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Taxation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the general excise tax exemptions set to be repealed by this measure have not been claimed or claimed by so few taxpayers that very little benefit to the public is indicated or data on the usage of these exemptions cannot be released without risk of identifying claimants. Your Committee concludes that it is appropriate for these largely unused tax exemptions to be repealed.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing its effective date to January 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1149, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1149, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1002 Finance on H.B. No. 1153

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Address the omission of the budget special provisions that authorize supplemental allotments and transfer of unrequired balances for capital improvement program projects; and
- (2) Establish a protocol fund for each principal state department as a separate account, with a cap of \$7,000, to be expended at the discretion of the executive head of the department.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that various state departments have had operational challenges supplementing allotments of funds appropriated for capital improvement projects for fiscal biennium 2023-2025 and transferring these appropriated funds between projects to address changing conditions. Your Committee further finds that although previous executive budget and supplemental budget bills have sometimes allowed departments to transfer funds between their projects and established protocol funds to be expended at the discretion of the executive heads of departments or agencies, the executive budget and supplemental budget bills for fiscal biennium 2023-2025 did not. This measure amends those budget bills to authorize the Governor to make supplemental allotments and transfer unrequired balances for capital improvement projects, and increases the cap on each principal department's protocol fund from \$2,500 to \$7,000, to allow departments to adapt to changing conditions as they undertake capital improvement projects.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1153, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1153, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1003 Finance on H.B. No. 1369

The purpose of this measure is to repeal certain credits, deductions, and exemptions under the income tax, general excise tax, and use tax laws.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Honolulu Film Office of the City and County of Honolulu; Credence Projects LLC; SAG-AFTRA Hawaii Local; Malama Kaua'i; Hawaii Energy Connection; Energy Advisors; Inter-Island Solar Supply; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Photonworks Engineering; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; IATSE Local 665; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Labor Caucus; Elcco Inc.; Chamber of Sustainable Commerce; Greentech Renewables-West Oahu; Alternate Energy Hawaii; Alternate Energy Inc.; Hawaii Solar Energy Association; Hawai'i Renewable Fuels Coalition; Hualua Farm LLC; Par Hawaii; Matson Navigation Company, Inc.; Life of the Land; Motion Picture Association; Hawai'i Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations; Sunrun; Poho Pacific; Airlines for America; Good Current; 350Hawaii.org; Green Power Projects LLC; Revolusun; Alaska Airlines; Hawaiian Airlines; Grand Solar Inc.; Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement; Solar Services Hawaii LLP; Sunnova Energy International Inc.; Holu Hou Energy; Island Film Group; Greenpeace Hawaii; Arion Energy, LLC; Hawaii Credit Union League; Kula Maui Hawaii; PV Tech; LegaSea Energy; HNU Energy; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; JNL Renewable Energy; Hawai'i Gas; Pacific Biodiesel Technologies; Sol-Ark; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Agriculture; Hawaii State Energy Office; Hawai'i Green Infrastructure Authority; Office of Climate Change Sustainability and Resiliency of the City and County of Honolulu; Hawai'i Harbors Users Group; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; Hawaii Crop Improvement Association; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Hawaii Applesseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Simonpietri Enterprises LLC; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that certain tax credits, deductions, and exemptions under the income, general excise, and use tax laws contribute to revenue losses and administrative complexities and therefore should be examined periodically for their efficacy. This measure repeals specific tax benefits to simplify the tax system and enhance revenue sustainability.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the provisions that repealed the Renewable Energy Technologies Tax Credit and the Motion Picture, Digital Media, and Film Production Income Tax Credit;
- (2) Clarifying that the measure shall not impact certain leases, agreements, qualifications, and certifications entered into or determined before December 31, 2025;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1369, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1369, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12; Ayes with Reservations (Reyes Oda). Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1004 Finance on H.B. No. 1439

The purpose of this measure is to make an appropriation for the public employment cost items and cost adjustments for employees of the Senate, House of Representatives, and various legislative agencies who are excluded from collective bargaining.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Ombudsman; Legislative Reference Bureau; and Office of the Auditor. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that this measure provides a vehicle for legislative officers and employees who are excluded from collective bargaining to be periodically compensated in relation to their counterparts included in collective bargaining.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1439, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1439, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Grandinetti, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1005 Finance on H.B. No. 450

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Transfer the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and the King Kamehameha Celebration Commission from the Department of Accounting and General Services to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism;
- (2) Transfer the authority held by the Comptroller over the Works of Art Special Fund to the Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for administrator positions to assist with and support the transfer.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and one individual.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the number of administrator positions to be established to unspecified numbers; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 450, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 450, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1006 Finance on H.B. No. 925

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Performing Arts Special Fund to be used by the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts for the coordination, planning, promotion, marketing, and execution of performing arts events; and
- (2) Require each state agency to transfer into the Performing Arts Special Fund revenues equal to one percent of all ticket sales from concerts held at state venues under its ownership and management.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; University of Hawai'i System; and Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Leaving unspecified the percentage of concert ticket sales to be collected; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 925, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 925, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1007 Finance on H.B. No. 1378

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Performing Arts Grant Program and Performing Arts Grants Special Fund to support performing arts in the State;
- (2) Clarify the scope of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts' responsibilities to include the coordination, planning, promotion, marketing, and execution of performing arts events; and
- (3) Appropriate funds to provide grants under the Performing Arts Grants Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Prior to the hearing on this measure, your Committee posted and made available for public review a proposed H.D. 2, which preserves the contents of this measure and additionally:

- (1) Amends the funding sources for the State Art Museum;
- (2) Amends the amounts required to be transferred by agencies into the Works of Art Special Fund and the allowable uses of monies from the Works of Art Special Fund; and
- (3) Appropriates federal funds and general funds for the operations of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.

Your Committee received comments on the proposed H.D. 2 from the Department of Budget and Finance and Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.

Your Committee has amended this measure by adopting the proposed H.D. 2 and further amending the measure by:

- (1) Changing to unspecified amounts the:
 - (A) Cap on the total amount of the one percent of appropriations to be transferred to the Works of Art Special Fund per fiscal year; and
 - (B) Maximum unencumbered balance of the Works of Art Special Fund for the previous fiscal year to prevent additional amounts of the one percent of appropriations from being transferred; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1378, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1378, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1008 Finance on H.B. No. 807

The purpose of this measure is to provide condominium associations with financing options by:

- (1) Establishing and appropriating funds for the Condominium Loan Program to provide condominium associations with low-cost financing, or refinancing for previously obtained loans, for maintenance or repair projects; and
- (2) Establishing the Condominium Loan Loss Reserves Program to incentivize private lenders to provide loans at competitive rates and terms.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Hawai'i Green Infrastructure Authority; and Hawaii Bankers Association.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 807, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 807, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1009 Finance on H.B. No. 640

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Office of the Ombudsman to publish an annual report that identifies the number and nature of complaints regarding the Child Welfare Services Branch of the Department of Human Services; and
- (2) Require the Child Welfare Services Branch to provide notification to certain parties that complaints can also be filed with the Office of the Ombudsman.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Coalition for Child Protective Reform. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services; Office of the Ombudsman; and Mālama 'Ōhana Working Group.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 640, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 640, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Lee, Morikawa, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1010 Finance on H.B. No. 430

The purpose of this measure is to authorize and appropriate funds for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to administer an on-the-job training work experience program that partners with private entities to increase opportunities for eligible high school and college and university students to participate in summer internship programs and allow internships with private sector employers through a cost-sharing strategy.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; Department of Education; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Pacific Resource Partnership; Hawai'i Regional Council of Carpenters; Kohala Coast Resort Association; Hawai'i Forest Industry Association; Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for Education; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Liberty Dialysis Hawai'i; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association; and Maui Chamber of Commerce. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 430, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 430, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Lee, Morikawa, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1011 Finance on H.B. No. 864

The purpose of this measure is to allow newly graduated high school students to be eligible for the State's workers' compensation coverage during the summer following their high school graduation while participating in work-based learning programs sponsored by the Department of Education.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and one individual.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Department of Education to submit an annual report to the Legislature on the work-based learning programs sponsored by the Department of Education and the University of Hawai'i; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 864, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 864, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Lee, Morikawa, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1012 Finance on H.B. No. 474

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Health to fund a fall prevention and early detection coordinator position.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging; American Medical Response; AARP Hawai'i; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) prevention and early detection coordinator position to an unspecified number.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 474, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 474, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Holt, Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1013 Finance on H.B. No. 1431

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an Oral Health Task Force to review information and data on the status of oral health in the State and make recommendations to improve the State's oral health infrastructure; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to help facilitate the work of the Oral Health Task Force.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; State Health Planning and Development Agency; Hawaii Dental Association; AlohaCare; Hawai'i Oral Health Coalition; Hawaii Dental Service; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services; Department of Health; and Office of Information Practices.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the one full-time equivalent permanent position to an unspecified number of temporary positions; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1431, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1431, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Holt, Lee, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1014 Finance on H.B. No. 751

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish statewide goals for solid waste reduction and organic waste diversion;
- (2) Require each county to incorporate into its next integrated solid waste management plan revision a plan to divert certain organic waste generated within the county in alignment with established state benchmarks; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for the Department of Health to reimburse the counties for incorporation of the new requirements established by this measure into their respective integrated solid waste management plan revisions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; and six individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Health; Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; and Department of Environmental Management of the County of Hawai'i.

Your Committee has amended this measure by removing the county reimbursement for the incorporation of the statewide goals for solid waste reduction and organic waste diversion into their respective integrated solid waste management plans and amending the purpose of the appropriation accordingly.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 751, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 751, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1015 Finance on H.B. No. 982

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Wildfire Recovery Fund; and
- (2) Authorize electric utilities to recover their contributions through securitization.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, District Council 50; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Par Hawaii; AES Hawai'i; Ka'ala Farm; Clearway Energy Group; Retail Merchants of Hawaii; Mālama Learning Center; Plumbers and Fitters Local 675; Hawaii Leeward Planning Conference; Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce; Hawaii Island Economic Development Board; Kalaeloa Partners, LP; Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Hawai'i; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies and Hawaii Association for Justice. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of the Governor; Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of the Attorney General; Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs Division of Consumer Advocacy; Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Public Utilities Commission; Hawai'i Climate Advisory Team; International Association of Heat & Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 132; International Union of Elevator Constructors, Local 126; Hawaii Building & Construction Trades Council; Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce; Pacific Resource Partnership; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Teamsters & Allied Workers Local 996; Hawaii Fire Fighters Association, Local 1463, IAFF, AFL-CIO; Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative; Iron Workers Stabilization Fund; Plus Power; Sustainable Energy Hawai'i; Ulupono Initiative; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Charter Communications; Hawaiian Electric; Life of the Land; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260; Hawaiian Telcom; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the financial contributions from the investor-owned electric utilities and shareholders of the investor-owned utilities to capitalize the Wildfire Recovery Fund to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Removing the provisions that authorize the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds and direct the allocation of the annual state ceiling of private activity bonds volume cap to be used for the securitization bonds; and

(3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 982, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 982, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1016 Finance on H.B. No. 1295

The purpose of this measure is to require all state and county agencies to utilize applicable federal clean energy tax credits, pursuant to the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, for the purchase and financing of capital improvement projects that use clean energy technology and zero-emission vehicles.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and Public Utilities Commission.

Your Committee has amended this measure by specifying that any state or county agency that utilizes the elective pay, also known as direct pay, provisions of the federal Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 shall not be eligible for applicable state tax credits for the same capital improvement project or vehicle.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1295, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1295, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1017 Finance on H.B. No. 1365

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Agriculture for a Non-Potable Water Wells Pilot Program to prepare an environmental impact statement for the drilling of non-potable water wells on individual parcels at Panaewa Agricultural Park and Panaewa farm lots.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawaii Floriculture and Nursery Association; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Hawaii Food+ Policy; Maui County Farm Bureau; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments from this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting a preamble;
- (2) Specifying that any non-potable water wells or improvements that are completed according to the environmental impact statement or environmental assessment shall revert back to the State upon the lease expiration date;
- (3) Authorizing the appropriation to be used either for an environmental impact statement or an environmental assessment for the drilling of non-potable water wells on individual parcels at Panaewa Agricultural Park and Panaewa farm lots, under the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1365, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1365, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1018 Finance on H.B. No. 212

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require and appropriate funds for the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions to establish a permanent Return-to-Home Program to return homeless individuals in the State to families and relatives in their home states;
- (2) Require the Office to submit annual reports to the Legislature regarding the Return-to-Home Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of the Public Defender; The Institute for Human Services, Inc.; Waikiki Neighborhood Board; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the State Council on Mental Health.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the number of positions to assist and supervise the Return-to-Home Program to an unspecified number.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 212, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 212, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1019 Finance on H.B. No. 280

The purpose of this measure is to permanently establish and appropriate funds for the Community Outreach Court as a division of the District Court of the First Circuit.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Department of Human Services; Office of the Public Defender; State Council on Mental Health; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; The Institute for Human Services, Inc.; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary and Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the number of positions to an unspecified number; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 280, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 280, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1020 Finance on H.B. No. 701

The purpose of this measure is to establish a tax credit for nonpaid family caregivers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Disability and Communication Access Board; Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs; AARP Hawai'i; The Institute for Human Services, Inc.; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Alzheimer's Association; and seven individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Department of Taxation; Executive Office on Aging; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making the amount of the tax credit equal to a percentage of a taxpayer's qualified expenses;
- (2) Changing the tax credit cap per taxpayer to an unspecified amount;
- (3) Specifying a sunset date of five years for any excess nonrefundable credits to be carried forward as a credit against tax liability; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 701, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 701, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1021 Finance on H.B. No. 880

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the reclassification of certain positions and establishment of mental health specialist positions within the Early Childhood Services Unit of the Department of Health Early Intervention Section.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Early Learning; Hawai'i Early Intervention Coordinating Council; Association for Infant Mental Health in Hawai'i; Commit to Keiki; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health and Department of Human Resources Development.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the number of positions established to an unspecified number; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 880, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 880, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1022 Finance on H.B. No. 424

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Education to provide free breakfast and lunch to students enrolled in a Department of Education school who meet certain requirements, beginning with the 2025-2026 school year;
- (2) Reduce the amount the Department of Education is authorized to charge for school meals to all students enrolled in department schools to no more than one-quarter of the cost of preparing the meals; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for the total plate costs associated with providing the free school breakfasts and lunches.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Youth Services Network; EPD Corp.; Lou's Quality Home Health Care Services, LLC; Malama Kaua'i; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Hawai'i Foodbank; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; AlohaCare; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; and three individuals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the amount the Department of Education is authorized to charge for school meals to all students enrolled in department schools to an unspecified portion of the cost of preparing the meals; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 424, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 424, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1023 Finance on H.B. No. 636

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a school capital improvement project modernization initiative in the School Facilities Authority to create a planning database for school facilities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the School Facilities Authority; EPD Corp.; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Education; and Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the School Facilities Authority shall submit the relevant reports to the Board of Education; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 636, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 636, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1024 Finance on H.B. No. 683

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for student transportation coordinators for each county to strengthen student transportation services across the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Ulupono Initiative; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the number of full-time equivalent permanent student transportation coordinator positions to an unspecified number.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 683, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 683, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1025 Finance on H.B. No. 754

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Education for community schools, including for one full-time equivalent program manager position.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Kohala Elementary School; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance; Education Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Pacific Resources for Education and Learning; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Hawai'i 'Ohana Support Network Advisory Committee; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services and Department of Education.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount; and
- (2) Changing the number of positions established to an unspecified number.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 754, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 754, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1026 Finance on H.B. No. 1293

The purpose of this measure is to temporarily adjust the Department of Education's small purchase procurement capacity by:

- (1) Exempting purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products less than \$100,000 from the electronic procurement system requirement;
- (2) Requiring no less than three written quotes for purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products of \$15,000 to less than \$25,000; and
- (3) Requiring no less than two written quotes for purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products of \$5,000 to less than \$15,000 for certain schools in rural communities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Ka Ohana O Na Pua; Ho'ōla Farms; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Ulupono Initiative; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the State Procurement Office. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the procurement threshold amounts to unspecified amounts; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1293, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1293, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1027 Finance on H.B. No. 1437

The purpose of this measure is to establish a general excise tax exemption on the gross proceeds or gross income received from sales of commodities or services that benefit nonprofit schools.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Maui Preparatory Academy; 'Iolani School; Hawaii Association of Independent Schools; Island School; Punahou School; Kauai Christian Academy; Waimea Country School; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that a nonprofit school be registered with and in possession of a tax clearance certificate from the Department of Taxation, rather than in good standing with the Department; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1437, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1437, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1028 Finance on H.B. No. 549

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for an Early Learning Apprenticeship Grant Program, to be administered by the University of Hawaii, to assist publicly- or privately-run early learning program service providers participating in state- and federally-approved early learning apprenticeship programs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; Early Learning Board; Executive Office on Early Learning; Department of Community Services of the City and County of Honolulu; Pride at Work–Hawai'i; AAUW of Hawaii; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Commit to Keiki; Holomua Collaborative; Parents And Children Together; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee has amended this measure by clarifying that the financial assistance provided to eligible early learning program service providers will be limited to covering costs associated with personnel expenses and wages, training expenses, mentorship stipends, administrative costs, and certain compensation enhancements.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 549, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 549, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1029 Finance on H.B. No. 1171

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Board of Regents to use funds from the University of Hawaii Tuition and Fees Special Fund for student aid in direct response to an emergency or disaster, as declared by the Governor.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System and University of Hawai'i Student Caucus.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the annual expenditure cap from the University of Hawaii Tuition and Fees Special Fund for providing student aid in direct response to an emergency or disaster to an unspecified amount; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1171, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1171, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Lee, Morikawa, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1030 Finance on H.B. No. 3

The purpose of this measure is to extend the deadline for the University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program to submit the North Shore Beach Management Plan to the Governor and Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program and Climate Resilience Collaborative.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Extending the appropriation lapse date to June 30, 2026, for the University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program to develop the North Shore Beach Management Plan; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 3, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 3, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1031 Finance on H.B. No. 86

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the establishment of one full-time equivalent permanent Program Specialist V position to coordinate and implement actions necessary to meet the goals and objectives of the Makai Watch Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawai'i Ocean Legislative Task Force; Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea; Makahanaloa Fishing Association; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Hana Business Council; Hawai'i Farmers Union; The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i and Palmyra; Mālama Learning Center; Save Honolulu Coalition; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the number of positions established to an unspecified number.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 86, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 86, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1032 Finance on H.B. No. 778

The purpose of this measure is to require the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to conduct an integrated land use study that incorporates the State's various climate and sustainability goals and studies to serve as a guide for planning and decision-making on the use of agricultural lands.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and Hawai'i Farmers Union.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriations to unspecified amounts; and
- (2) Changing the number of full-time equivalent planner positions to an unspecified number.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 778, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 778, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1033 Finance on H.B. No. 867

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require, beginning on June 30, 2030, all new playgrounds constructed in state parks and on public school grounds to have a minimal set of accessible recreational playground equipment; and
- (2) Establish the Accessible Recreational Playground Equipment Special Fund and appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Department of Education to purchase and install accessible recreational playground equipment.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education; Department of Land and Natural Resources; and Disability and Communication Access Board.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the requirement and appropriation of funds for all newly constructed playgrounds located in state parks to have a minimal set of accessible recreation playground equipment;
- (2) Clarifying that the requirement for all new playgrounds constructed to have a minimal set of accessible recreational playground equipment applies to Department of Education schools, rather than all public schools;
- (3) Changing the agency tasked with implementing this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Education; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 867, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 867, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1034 Finance on H.B. No. 1494

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Lapse appropriations of general obligation bond funds previously authorized for the planning, design, and construction of a stadium in Halawa by the Stadium Authority;
- (2) Authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds for the upgrade of the stadium on the University of Hawaii at Manoa campus;
- (3) Rename the Stadium Authority, Stadium Development District, and Stadium Development Special Fund as the Halawa Redevelopment Authority, Halawa Redevelopment District, and Halawa Redevelopment Special Fund, respectively; and
- (4) Appropriate funds out of the Halawa Redevelopment Special Fund for deposit into the general fund.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Accounting and General Services; and Stadium Authority. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the maximum general obligation bond issuance and appropriations to unspecified amounts; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1494, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1494, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15; Ayes with Reservations (Alcos). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1035 Finance on H.B. No. 89

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for the Teacher Housing Assistance Program to provide housing vouchers to certain eligible teachers who are employed by the Department of Education or a charter school and teach at a hard-to-staff school.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education; State Public Charter School Commission; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the maximum amount for a housing voucher to an unspecified amount.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 89, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 89, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kitagawa, Ward).

SCRep. 1036 Finance on H.B. No. 286

The purpose of this measure is to increase the maximum annual deduction for contributions to, and maximum account levels for, individual housing accounts.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Maui Chamber of Commerce and seven individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the maximum annual deduction amount for contributions to, and maximum account level amount for, individual housing accounts to unspecified amounts.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 286, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 286, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kitagawa, Ward).

SCRep. 1037 Finance on H.B. No. 741

The purpose of this measure is to exempt certain projects funded by the Affordable Homeownership Revolving Fund from prevailing wage provisions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Hawaii Habitat for Humanity Association; Hawai'i Community Lending; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Maui Chamber of Commerce.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing to an unspecified amount the threshold of Affordable Homeownership Revolving Fund use below which certain affordable housing projects are exempt from prevailing wage provisions; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 741, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 741, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14; Ayes with Reservations (Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Lamosao, Lee). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kitagawa, Ward).

SCRep. 1038 Finance on H.B. No. 830

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Land and Natural Resources, through the State Historic Preservation Division and subject to approval from the appropriate island burial council, to contract its review of proposed state projects, projects on privately owned historic property, and projects involving entitlements for use that may affect historic properties to third-party consultants if the Department will not be able to complete its review within sixty days.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; NAIOP Hawaii; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Historic Hawai'i Foundation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; and Maui Chamber of Commerce.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Department of Land and Natural Resources to adopt rules to implement the retention of third-party consultants, as proposed by this measure, within one year of the effective date of this measure;
- (2) Including a sunset date of June 30, 2031, which is approximately five years after the deadline to adopt those rules; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 830, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 830, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kitagawa, Ward).

SCRep. 1039 Finance on H.B. No. 1294

The purpose of this measure is to require and appropriate funds for the Department of Agriculture to establish an Agricultural Workforce Housing Working Group to address the shortage and challenges of agricultural workforce housing.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Hawai'i Farmers Union; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Land Use Commission.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1294, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1294, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kitagawa, Ward).

SCRep. 1040 Finance on H.B. No. 1298

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to establish a Government Employee Housing Revolving Fund Program and Government Employee Ninety-Nine Year Leasehold Rent-to-Own Program;
- (2) Establish the Government Employee Housing Revolving Fund; and
- (3) Appropriate funds out of the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund for the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to adopt rules, engage the community, conduct site and pre-development planning for at least one government employee rental or ninety-nine year leasehold rent-to-own project in each county, and establish positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Maui Chamber of Commerce.

Prior to the hearing on this measure, your Committee posted and made available for public review a proposed H.D. 3, which amends this measure by:

- (1) Codifying a purpose section in statute;
- (2) Specifying that grants shall only be made to state departments and agencies pursuant to adopted rules; and
- (3) Removing the exemption of Government Employee Housing Revolving Fund expenditures from legislative appropriation and allotment requirements.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the proposed H.D. 3 from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received comments on the proposed H.D. 3 from the Department of Budget and Finance and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by adopting the proposed H.D. 3 and further amending the measure by changing the positions to an unspecified number.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1298, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1298, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kitagawa, Ward).

SCRep. 1041 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 1379

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Specify the types of foreign medical schools whose graduates may be accepted for licensure;
- (2) Specify licensure requirements for foreign medical graduates;
- (3) Exempt foreign medical graduates from the residency requirements for medical licensure under certain circumstances; and
- (4) Authorize the Hawaii Medical Board to waive the residency requirements under certain circumstances.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Medical Board; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Philippine Medical Association of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Pacific Health; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Medical Association.

Your Committee finds that the State has seen an increasing demand for medical professionals, yet some individuals with foreign medical training face barriers to licensure, potentially limiting Hawaii residents' access to qualified physicians. These barriers may prevent the State from fully utilizing skilled practitioners who can provide essential medical services to residents while ensuring that these individuals meet high standards of care. This measure will expand licensure pathways for foreign-trained physicians who meet rigorous competency and professional knowledge requirements, thereby enhancing public health and safety standards.

However, your Committee finds that this measure gives the Hawaii Medical Board unnecessarily broad discretion to determine the comparability of clinical competencies between individuals who have graduated from a program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education or American Osteopathic Association and those who have not. As an alternative, the Advisory Commission on Additional Licensing Models issued recommendations for changing licensure requirements for physicians who have completed training or practice abroad.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the substantive contents of this measure;
- (2) Amending one of the existing pathways for foreign medical graduates to be licensed as physicians by removing the time restriction on when the qualifying examination of the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates should have been passed; and
- (3) Establishing an alternative pathway for foreign medical graduates to be licensed as physicians for foreign medical graduates who passed certain examinations, possess an Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates certificate, and have completed two years of post-graduate medical training.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1379, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1379, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ilagan, Lowen, Pierick).

SCRep. 1042 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 951

The purpose of this measure is to allow a patient to be prescribed a three-day supply of opiates via telehealth if the patient has been seen in person by physician in the same medical group as the prescribing physician.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Kaiser Permanente Hawai‘i; and Aloha Green Apothecary. Your Committee received comments on this measure from two individuals.

Your Committee finds that telehealth allows patients to connect with physicians and other health care providers for health care services. In the event of acute pain, telehealth allows for physicians to provide prompt intervention and ensure that the patient has immediate access to pain relief.

However, your Committee further finds that existing law requires a patient to only have access to opiates through a telehealth consultation after first having an in-person consultation with the same prescribing physician. In the event that the patient's primary physician is unavailable, the patient does not have access to opiate medication through telehealth. This measure allows patients to have access to necessary pain medications through telehealth while still safeguarding against inappropriate use and addiction.

Your Committee recognizes that there are health care providers, other than physicians, with prescriptive authority who practice within the same medical group and have already seen the patient in person. These other health care providers play a pivotal role in the State's health care system and this measure should not unduly restrict access to necessary prescriptions simply because the patient's initial in-person consultation was with a health care provider who was not a physician.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Reverting the language of this measure, with respect to the initial in-person consultation, to as it was introduced, which allows a patient who has been seen in person by a health care provider in the same medical group as the prescribing physician to be prescribed an opiate prescription for a three-day supply or less via telehealth; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 951, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 951, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1043 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 1422

The purpose of this measure is to exempt non-profit community-based organizations that provide transportation services from the State's Motor Carrier Law, under certain circumstances.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Economic Development of the County of Kaua‘i; Hui Maka‘āinana o Makana; and The Hanalei Initiative. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Public Utilities Commission.

Your Committee finds that two non-profit community-based organizations, Hui Maka‘āinana o Makana and The Hanalei Initiative, have collaborated on the care and management of Hā‘ena State Park on Kaua‘i via the North Shore Shuttle Project. The Project has successfully reduced traffic congestion between Princeville and Hā‘ena, which has decreased the number of visitors at Hā‘ena State Park and Ke‘e Beach and eased tensions between residents and visitors. These efforts have also enabled The Hanalei Initiative to subsequently reinvest into the community.

Your Committee further finds that, while the Project has been successful, it does not directly fall into any of the existing exemptions under the Motor Carrier Law. There are exemptions for other similar operations, including sampan buses operating within the vicinity of Hilo, Hawai‘i, and persons conducting jitney services.

Your Committee also finds that the Project may serve as a model for other locations to reduce traffic congestion and decrease the number of visitors in sensitive areas. This measure would provide an exemption for such operations from the Motor Carrier Law.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the exemption from the Motor Carrier Law applies to community-based organizations engaged in community-based economic development providing transportation services;
- (2) Clarifying the parameters that qualify a community-based organization for the exemption, including:
 - (A) Specifying that the transportation services are operated within the parameters of a state- or county-approved plan that is contracted or regulated under the authority of that state or county government agency;
 - (B) Stating that the government agency shall require or may exceed the minimum requirements for commercial and business insurance as required under the Motor Carrier Law;
 - (C) Deleting language that prohibited a community-based organization from selling any transportation service-related assets for profit during the period of the exemption; and
 - (D) Requiring the government agency to notify the Public Utilities Commission of the agency's determination that the community-based organization qualifies for the exemption;
- (3) Inserting definitions for "community-based economic development", "community-based organization", and "community stakeholders"; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1422, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1422, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ilagan, Lowen, Pierick).

SCRep. 1044 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 423

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify the process for selecting a certified provider of rehabilitation services;

- (2) Require a provider to automatically approve an injured employee for vocational rehabilitation services if the provider determines that the injured employee will likely require vocational rehabilitation services to return to suitable gainful employment; and
- (3) Require a provider to file the employee's plan no later than ninety days after the submission of the initial evaluation report.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development; Hawaii Medical Association; and Hawaii Insurers Council. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals, Hawaii Chapter; Hawaii Rehabilitation Counseling Association; Vocational Management Consultants, Inc.; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the intent of the workers' compensation law is to assist an injured employee to return to the active labor force as quickly as possible and to restore the employee's earning capacity as nearly as possible to the level the employee earned at the time of the injury in a cost-effective manner. This measure provides a streamlined process to assist these injured employees to return to suitable gainful employment as quickly as possible and in a cost-effective manner.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Reverting the language of this measure, with respect to the filing of the injured employee's plan, to as it was introduced, which does not specify a deadline for the filing of the employee's plan; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 423, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 423, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ilagan, Lowen, Pierick).

SCRep. 1045 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 1499

The purpose of this measure is to authorize public school employees or agents who have completed appropriate training to act as volunteer substitutes to administer medications to students consistent with standards applicable to school health assistants.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Department of Health; University of Hawai'i at Mānoa School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene; University of Hawai'i at Mānoa John A. Burns School of Medicine; Hawai'i State Center for Nursing; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that access to certain medications during school may be necessary for the attendance of students with a health condition. School health assistants play a vital student support role by administering needed medications to students. Under existing law, only school health assistants are authorized to administer routine medications. The reliance on a single person naturally creates challenges to consistent and efficient application and service delivery. The school health assistants cannot be in multiple locations at once, such as field trips, emergencies, or while assisting other students. This measure expands the pool of authorized persons to administer medications to properly trained volunteers, which will help maintain continuity of health services while upholding established safety and training standards.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1499, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1499, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Lowen).

SCRep. 1046 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 350

The purpose of this measure is to expand the types of water heater systems required for the issuance of a building permit for new single-family dwellings to include ENERGY STAR certified heat pump water heaters.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Energy Office; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Hawai'i Energy; Kaua'i Climate Action Coalition; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Inter-Island Solar Supply and Hawaii Solar Energy Association.

Your Committee finds that the reduction of energy consumption is an important component of the State's energy policy. Solar water heaters can save residents up to forty percent on their overall electric bills, which is why the State, in 2010, mandated that newly constructed single-family homes be equipped with solar water heaters. However, some homes may have limited sunlight exposure, which makes solar water heating less effective.

Your Committee further finds that ENERGY STAR certified heat pump water heaters are also viable, energy saving options. Those water heaters are two to three times more efficient than conventional water heaters and are able to participate in demand-response and time-of-use programs. This measure therefore adds ENERGY STAR certified heat pump water heaters as an option for newly constructed single-family homes.

Your Committee amended this measure by replacing the definition of "heat pump water heater" with "heat pump" and further amending that defined term.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 350, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 350, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1047 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 874

The purpose of this measure is to provide some protection of a child performer's earnings by:

- (1) Specifying that the parent or legal guardian of a minor in theatrical employment must establish a trust account, with an independent third-party trustee, for the minor;

- (2) Requiring employers to deposit at least fifteen percent of the minor's gross earnings into the trust account; and
- (3) Making any misappropriation or fraudulent use of funds within the trust account by a parent or legal guardian or an independent third-party trustee a breach of fiduciary duty subject to civil penalties, criminal prosecution, and removal from the position of trustee.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the SAG-AFTRA Hawai'i Local; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; Pride at Work – Hawai'i; IATSE Local 665; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Your Committee finds that minors may be employed in a variety of performance roles, including as models, dancers, singers, musicians, or motion picture, television, radio, or theatrical performers. Your Committee further finds that the minor's earnings may be mismanaged by the parents, harming the minor's financial wellbeing. This measure establishes certain safeguards to ensure that minors engaged in theatrical employment are financially protected and can financially benefit from their hard work upon reaching adulthood.

Your Committee notes that the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations raised concerns that the contents of this measure do not comport with the existing provisions of the Child Labor Law and suggested that its provisions may be more suited to other chapters of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, including the Hawaii Uniform Custodial Trust Act. Your Committee requests, as this measure progresses through the legislative process, that other departments provide suggestions on whether there is a more appropriate placement for the provisions of this measure.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Moving the provisions of this measure from the Child Labor Law to the Hawaii Uniform Custodial Trust Act;
- (2) Specifying that the provisions of this measure only apply when the gross income of a minor in theatrical employment is at least \$5,000 for a project or \$20,000 in a calendar year;
- (3) Specifying that for purposes of this measure, "theatrical employment" includes a social media influencer; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 874, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 874, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ilagan, Lowen, Pierick).

SCRep. 1048 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 799

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify that a physician may practice at an organized ambulatory health care facility even if the physician does not have hospital privileges at a licensed hospital in the same geographic location as the ambulatory facility; and
- (2) Provide that a written transfer agreement is not required to transfer a patient from an organized ambulatory health care facility to a licensed hospital.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Aloha Surgical Center; Hawaii Medical Association; and Hawaii Medical Service Association. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund Board of Trustees; and Hawaii Association of Health Plans.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii residents, particularly those in rural and neighbor island communities, continue to face significant barriers to accessing timely and specialized health care due to a shortage of health care providers. This shortage has been further exacerbated by the 2023 Maui wildfires, which displaced medical practices and damaged health care facilities, leaving many residents without adequate care.

Your Committee further finds that under existing Hawaii Administrative Rules, physicians must have local hospital privileges to practice in outpatient facilities. Because of the State's unique geography, the conditions needed to get hospital privileges are extremely hard to fulfill for health care providers who do not reside on the island where care is needed. This measure will protect consumers by reducing administrative barriers for physicians who are willing to travel to another island to provide much-needed care at outpatient facilities, ensuring that residents in underserved areas can more easily access the medical services they need without unnecessary delays.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Restricting the applicability of this measure to counties with populations of less than five hundred thousand; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 799, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 799, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ilagan, Lowen, Pierick).

SCRep. 1049 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 48

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify the labeling and advertising requirements for coffee that is grown and processed in the State; and
- (2) Make necessary distinctions between the definitions of "geographic origin" and "regional origin".

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Heavenly Hawaiian Farms; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Coffee Growers Association; and Hawai'i Food+ Policy.

Your Committee finds that coffee is an important agricultural crop of the State and a highly valued commodity in Hawaii. Your Committee further finds that fraudulent representations as to a coffee's geographic origin diminish the value of that geographic identifier by harming its reputation. Your Committee further finds that misleading labeling practices continue to pose a challenge by allowing coffee blends with only a small percentage of Hawaii-grown and -processed beans to be marketed in ways that confuse consumers and devalue local coffee. This measure strengthens existing labeling laws by clearly

distinguishing between geographic origin and regional origin, which is essential for protecting the reputation of coffee grown and processed in Hawaii, preventing deceptive marketing, and maintaining consumer trust.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 48, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 48, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ilagan, Lowen, Pierick).

SCRep. 1050 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.B. No. 256

The purpose of this measure is to require an owner or operator of a waste-to-energy facility to comply with certain United States Environmental Protection Agency regulations as they existed on December 31, 2024, unless emission limitations are made more stringent.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Reworld; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Kaua'i Climate Action Coalition; Energy Justice Network; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that, while waste-to-energy facilities are responsible for diverting solid waste from municipal landfills and converting the waste to energy, those facilities are also responsible for producing a significant amount of harmful emissions. Your Committee further finds that the existing political landscape on the federal level casts uncertainty over the regulation of emissions by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. Specifically, there is a concern that regulations on emissions may either be relaxed or eliminated in their entirety. This measure is intended to prevent any backsliding on existing emission limits by requiring waste-to-energy facilities to comply with United States Environmental Protection Agency regulations as they existed on December 31, 2024, unless the emission limits are made more stringent.

However, your Committee recognizes that waste-to-energy facilities are, in some respects, subject to more stringent emission limits under the State's Air Pollution Control Permit issued by the Department of Health. As such, there is some concern that this measure may be construed to inadvertently relax the requirements by which a waste-to-energy facility must abide by allowing the facility to ignore the more stringent state requirements and simply be in compliance with the federal requirements.

Lastly, your Committee notes that some written testimony suggested that this measure be amended to adopt the United States Environmental Protection Agency's draft regulations as proposed in January 2024. The United States Environmental Protection Agency reopened the comment period on these draft regulations with an end date of July 16, 2025. The comment period provides the public an opportunity to participate in the rulemaking process. During a comment period, significant issues may be identified by the public. Consequently, your Committee notes that there are significant concerns that the adoption of draft regulations before any potential issues are identified in the comment period may subject the State to liability.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that waste-to-energy facilities are to comply with the more stringent emission limitations, whether under federal regulations or the state Air Pollution Control Permit issued by the Department of Health; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 256, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 256, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ilagan, Lowen, Pierick).

SCRep. 1051 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 239

The purpose of this measure is to amend the definition of "child abuse or neglect" by clarifying that the failure to provide certain needs to a child shall not constitute child abuse or neglect if the sole reason the person responsible for the care of the child is unable to adequately provide for the child's care is due to a lack of financial resources.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Wellness and Resilience; Hawaii Coalition for Child Protective Reform; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Ho'ouikaika Partnership; Domestic Violence Action Center; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that the recent update to the federal Administration for Children and Families' Child Welfare Policy Manual encourages states to exclude factors such as poverty and income-related issues from the definitions of child abuse and neglect. This measure would align Hawaii's definition of "child abuse or neglect" with these federal guidelines and improve outcomes for families in need by preventing unnecessary family separations due to financial hardship.

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. 239, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Cochran, Kahaloa, Garcia, Shimizu).

SCRep. 1052 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 320

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow qualified adults, including adults with a disability, mentally ill adults, and adults sixty-five years of age or older, to enter into supported decision-making agreements with one or more members of a supportive community; and
- (2) Specify the terms of a supported decision-making agreement, including access to personal information, agreement requirements, and circumstances for termination.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging; Disability and Communication Access Board; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council; Easterseals Hawaii; Special Education Advisory Council; Full Life; and seven individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Department of the Attorney General; and Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that supported decision-making agreements allow adults with a disability, mentally ill adults, and adults sixty-five years of age or older to make their own decisions with the help of trusted supporters. This approach promotes greater autonomy, dignity, and self-determination, while also minimizing the need for more restrictive measures like guardianships, which can undermine an individual's rights and freedoms.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the definition of "vulnerable adult" as used in the supported decision-making agreements chapter;
- (2) Prohibiting a qualified adult from entering into a supported decision-making agreement with a member of the supportive community who has been confirmed as the perpetrator of abuse of the qualified adult, any other qualified adult, or any vulnerable adult;
- (3) Requiring a supported decision-making agreement to be automatically terminated if the member of the supportive community who entered into the decision-making agreement provides paid support services to the qualified adult; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 320, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 320, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Cochran, Kahaloa, Garcia, Shimizu).

SCRep. 1053 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 963

The purpose of this measure is to establish strict liability for crimes against elders with respect to the attendant circumstance that the victim was sixty years of age or older.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu; Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Hawai'i; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Maui; AARP Hawai'i; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender and one individual.

Your Committee finds that Act 147, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, provided additional protections for the State's senior citizens against physical, emotional, and financial exploitation. However, further clarification to state laws related to these protections is needed. Removing the requirement that a perpetrator knew the age of the victim prior to the offense strengthens the existing laws and ensures the safety and well-being of Hawaii's kupuna.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 963, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 963, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1054 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 729

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Raise the minimum age to enter into marriage from sixteen to eighteen years of age;
- (2) Repeal the authority of parents and the family court to consent to a minor's marriage;
- (3) Repeal spousal cohabitation after the parties attain legal age as an exception for an annulment based on nonage; and
- (4) Repeal exemptions for sexual assault of a minor if the perpetrator is married to the minor.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women; Zonta Club of Hilo Foundation; Unchained At Last; Service Women's Action Network; Protect Our Defenders; Zonta International USA Caucus; Zonta Club of Kauai; AHA Foundation; American Atheists; a petition signed by twenty-four individuals; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Human Services; and Sex Abuse Treatment Center.

Your Committee finds that child marriage is increasingly recognized as a human rights violation that disproportionately impacts young girls and undermines their social and economic well-being. Despite defining minors as individuals under eighteen, Hawaii law currently permits marriage as young as sixteen years of age, with judicial approval allowing marriage at fifteen. This discrepancy is particularly concerning given that Hawaii's sexual assault laws otherwise criminalize sexual conduct with minors under sixteen. This measure aligns Hawaii with other states that have already enacted protections that ensure that both parties to a marriage are at least eighteen years of age.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 729, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 729, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1055 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1120

The purpose of this measure is to clarify that the Department of Health has the legal authority and obligation to prevent and address nuisances that affect public health or environmental health.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that protecting public and environmental health is a fundamental responsibility of the Department of Health, particularly as climate change exacerbates environmental hazards and resource pressures. The relationship between community well-being and environmental conditions highlights the need for proactive measures to prevent health risks posed by nuisances such as pollution, toxic substances, and other hazardous conditions. This measure strengthens the Department of Health's authority to prevent and address nuisances that threaten public and environmental health, ensuring safer and healthier communities across the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1120, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1120, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kahaloa).

SCRep. 1056 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 36

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit excited delirium from being recognized as a valid medical diagnosis or cause of death in the State;
- (2) Prohibit a medical examiner, coroner, or health care provider from stating on a certificate of death or in any report that the cause of death was excited delirium;
- (3) Prohibit law enforcement officers from using the term excited delirium to describe an individual in an incident report; and
- (4) Establish a new Hawaii Rule of Evidence that deems evidence that a person experienced or suffered excited delirium inadmissible in a civil action.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; Hui Malama Pono Hawai'i; Community Alliance on Prisons; Haddad & Sherwin LLP; American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Judiciary. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that the term "excited delirium" has been widely discredited by medical and scientific organizations and has been improperly used to justify deaths occurring in law enforcement custody. This unrecognized diagnosis has contributed to legal outcomes that obscure the true causes of death, preventing accountability and justice for affected individuals and their families. This measure ensures that law enforcement and medical determinations are based on scientifically valid and evidence-based practices by prohibiting the use of the term "excited delirium" as a medical diagnosis, cause of death, or legal defense.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 36, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 36, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kahaloa).

SCRep. 1057 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 576

The purpose of this measure is to exempt transfers of Hawaiian home lands from transfer restrictions of real property under housing development programs of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Your Committee finds that some Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) projects have used Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) programs to assist in the financing of the projects. However, use of HHFDC programs subjects the projects to transfer restrictions, such as buyback and shared appreciation restrictions, that may conflict with the objectives and requirements of the DHHL programs. This measure exempts DHHL projects from the transfer restrictions typically applicable to HHFDC projects.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 576, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 576, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kahaloa).

SCRep. 1058 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 918

The purpose of this measure is to establish labeling requirements for certain premoistened nonwoven disposable wipes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Environmental Management of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; and Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Retail Merchants of Hawaii; and Household & Commercial Products Association.

Your Committee finds that the accumulation of disposable wipes, even those labeled as "flushable", in wastewater treatment systems is a major contributor to blockages in sewer systems. This can lead to sewage spills, increased maintenance costs, and environmental hazards. This measure would establish clear labeling requirements for non-flushable wipes and impose civil penalties to ensure compliance by manufacturers and retailers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the Department of Health from language relating to the registration and approval of manufacturers of covered products by the United States Environmental Protection Agency;

- (2) Deleting language that would have established penalties under this measure; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 918, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 918, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Cochran, Kahaloa, Garcia, Shimizu).

SCRep. 1059 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1277

The purpose of this measure is to limit the value of daily transactions through a digital financial asset transaction kiosk to a maximum of \$1,000.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from AARP Hawai'i; Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition; Hawaii Credit Union League; Holomua Collaborative; Hawaii Bankers Association; and six individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from CoinFlip. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committee finds that digital financial asset transaction kiosks, also known as crypto ATMs, appear as regular ATMs and allow people to conduct legitimate cryptocurrency transactions by depositing fiat to purchase cryptocurrencies that are then transferred to a digital wallet. However, crypto ATMs are largely unregulated at the state level compared to traditional financial institutions and money service businesses, which allows the crypto ATMs to lack consumer fraud protections. As a result, crypto ATMs can put Hawaii consumers at risk of fraudulent purchase schemes. This measure provides a means for protecting consumers by limiting the daily amount that may be transacted through crypto ATMs.

Your Committee has amended this measure to clarify the exemption under the definition of "digital financial asset" for securities registered or exempt from registration under Hawaii law.

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. 1277, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1277, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Cochran, Kahaloa, Garcia, Shimizu).

SCRep. 1060 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 70

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Specify that the condominium association budget summary must contain all required information without referring the reader to other portions of the budget;
- (2) Explicitly state that the defense of good faith compliance is unavailable to any condominium association whose board adopts a budget that omits the required budget summary; and
- (3) Provide that a condominium association has the burden of proving compliance.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Legislative Action Committee of the Community Associations Institute; Hawaii First Realty LLC; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Honolulu Tower; Palehua Townhouse Association; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that condominium associations in the State play a critical role in managing shared residential properties, yet concerns have arisen regarding the transparency and accountability of financial disclosures, particularly with reserve studies and budget summaries. Your Committee further finds that some condominium associations have failed to provide clear and accessible summaries of their financial health, leaving unit owners without crucial information about their financial obligations and long-term property maintenance. This measure strengthens financial transparency by ensuring that condominium associations provide accurate and complete budget summaries and removes the good faith exemption for boards that fail to comply, promoting better governance and protecting homeowners' interest.

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. 70, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Cochran, Kahaloa, Garcia, Shimizu).

SCRep. 1061 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 528

The purpose of this measure is to exempt state and county lands leased after July 1, 2025, for an initial period of no less than ninety-nine years from state law governing residential leaseholds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Your Committee finds that existing law provides assistance and protection to certain lessees. Under chapter 516, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation is authorized to assist residential lessees of single-family homes to purchase the leased fee interest in their houselots by petitioning the State to facilitate a lease-to-fee conversion through its use of eminent domain powers. Under chapter 516D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, sellers of residential leaseholds of condominium units or cooperative apartments are required to disclose the major provisions of the lease.

Your Committee further finds that these statutory provisions should not apply to state and county lands, leased on or after July 1, 2025, for an initial period of no less than ninety-nine years as it would be inconsistent with the intent of those leases. This measure exempts such state and county lands from the provisions of chapters 516 and 516D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to more effectively manage the land.

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. 528, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kahaloa).

SCRep. 1062 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1093

The purpose of this measure is to clarify the Hawaii Public Housing Authority's powers relating to housing projects.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

Your Committee finds that the concentration of public housing has been shown to reduce opportunities for the low-income families these projects are meant to assist. Neighborhoods with high concentrations of low-income families often struggle with higher crime rates, fewer jobs, and poorer performing schools. This measure would shift the Hawaii Public Housing Authority's focus to achieve its long-term goals of decentralized poverty and redeveloping existing public housing projects into mixed-income communities.

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. 1093, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Kahaloa, Todd).

SCRep. 1063 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1096

The purpose of this measure is to repeal the statutorily established tenant selection preferences for disabled veterans and spouses of deceased veterans in the State Low-Income Housing Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission; and Disability and Communication Access Board.

Your Committee finds that the Hawaii Public Housing Authority serves the most vulnerable members of the community, including families earning less than thirty percent of the area median income, individuals with disabilities, elderly residents on fixed incomes, and veterans in need of housing assistance. For the State Low-Income Housing Program, the tenant selection preferences are codified in statute. This is in contrast with all of the other programs administered by the Authority, where such preferences are not codified in statute, but rather in the Authority's administrative rules. The codified preferences make it difficult for the Authority to adjust its policies to address evolving housing needs. This measure repeals the statutory tenant selection preferences allowing the Authority to address such preferences in its administrative rules.

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. 1096, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kahaloa).

SCRep. 1064 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1411

The purpose of this measure is to allow the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to allow projects to grant preferences in the sale or lease of housing units to applicants who live or work within five miles of the project.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation and NAIOP Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that long commutes strain transportation infrastructure. Long commutes also impair worker productivity and personal wellbeing, as well as harm the environment and overall economic productivity of the State. Allowing people to live closer to where they work will help preserve infrastructure, improve workers' mental health, and help businesses by reducing commute time. This measure establishes preferences for applicants who live or work in the immediate vicinity of affordable housing projects.

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. 1411, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kahaloa).

SCRep. 1065 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1325

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require developers of affordable housing projects under the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to assist certain tenants who are subject to displacement or eviction by the proposed project by:
 - (A) Granting those tenants the right of first refusal of a comparable unit in the housing project at an affordable rate or establishing a fund to provide relocation benefits and offer assistance;
 - (B) Providing information, either directly or through a contracted service, on how to obtain assistance and exercise the right of first refusal; and
 - (C) Establishing procedures to track and maintain communication with those tenants; and
- (2) Establish consequences for a developer's noncompliance.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Tagnawa; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; LIMBY Hawai'i; Save Medicaid Hawaii; Lāhainā Strong; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Susannah Wesley Community Center; Adult Friends for Youth; Maui Tenants and Workers Association; Parents and Children Together; Medical-Legal Partnership for Children in Hawai'i; Hawai'i YIMBY; Kokua Kalihi Valley Comprehensive Family Services; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that addressing the housing shortage requires the redevelopment of existing homes. However, when an existing residential structure is being redeveloped, the current residents should be treated fairly and equitably, and allowed the opportunity to return to their community. The lack of a standardized process to address the displacement of current residents cultivates mistrust of housing efforts. This measure establishes a standardized process to transition current residents displaced by an affordable housing project.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that upon completion of the proposed housing project, developers must offer and implement the right of first refusal to displaced or evicted tenants if that option is chosen by the developer;
- (2) Deleting language that would have specified that tenants are considered relocated only when they have moved into the new project; and

(3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1325, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1325, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kahaloa).

SCRep. 1066 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1008

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to determine the effect of any proposed state affordable housing project on historic property, aviation artifacts, or burial sites within ninety days of a request for determination; and
- (2) Base the historic review requirements on the project area's known or likely density of historic, cultural, and archaeological resources or previous identification of no significant historic properties through an archaeological inventory survey.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; and Maui Chamber of Commerce. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Your Committee finds that historic reviews are required for any building, structure, object, district, area, or site that is 50 years or older, regardless of historical significance. Consequently, it is common for historic reviews to require over a year to complete. The lengthy and backlogged historic preservation reviews prevent the timely development of affordable housing, increase costs, and add uncertainty to projects. This measure streamlines the historic preservation review process to help support the State's efforts to provide affordable housing.

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. 1008, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti). Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 3 (Cochran, Kahaloa, Todd).

SCRep. 1067 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 54

The purpose of this measure is to increase the penalty for a third or subsequent offense, within five years, of excessive speeding to a class C felony and that the vehicle be subject to forfeiture.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Honolulu Police Department; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender and Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that excessive speeding is a major public safety concern, contributing to a high number of traffic fatalities and serious injuries in Hawaii. Research shows that pedestrian fatality risk rises sharply with higher impact speeds, and nearly half of the State's traffic deaths in the past decade were speed-related. This measure strengthens penalties for repeat speeding offenders and permits vehicle forfeiture to discourage reckless driving and improve overall road safety.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making the penalty for a third or subsequent offense of excessive speeding a misdemeanor, rather than a Class C felony;
- (2) Requiring a mandatory minimum jail sentence of thirty days as part of sentencing;
- (3) Changing the maximum amount of time a person's license may be revoked to six months, rather than one year; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 54, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 54, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1068 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 162

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Hawaii Labor Relations Board to include the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service in their request to the American Arbitration Association to furnish a list of five qualified interest arbitrators to mediate labor disputes; and
- (2) Clarify that the list of five interest arbitrators may contain interest arbitrators from the American Arbitration Association and the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, or their successors.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee finds that the collective bargaining process for public employees in the State relies on arbitration panels to resolve disputes. However, existing law limits the selection of neutral arbitrators to those provided by a single organization. This restriction can reduce the availability of experienced arbitrators and hinder the timely resolution of labor disputes. This measure will expand the pool of qualified arbitrators and ensure a more efficient and impartial arbitration process by allowing the Hawaii Labor Relations Board to request arbitrators from the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 162, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 162, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1069 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 359

The purpose of this measure is to amend covered offender registration laws to:

- (1) Include offenders who, while acting in a professional capacity, commit the offense of sexual assault in the fourth degree against a minor who is at least sixteen years old;
- (2) Provide that the exception to public access requirements for misdemeanors does not apply when the covered offense was committed against a minor;
- (3) Require a person who is required to report every year under the covered offender registration requirements to report during the thirty-day period following the offender's birthday, rather than from the offender's actual date of birth; and
- (4) Specify how certain covered offenses are to be tiered for purposes of seeking termination of registration requirements.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Honolulu Police Department; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; Sex Abuse Treatment Center; Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that loopholes in the sex offender registration laws allow some offenders to evade public disclosure. For example, individuals in trusted roles, such as teachers, coaches, and religious leaders, who sexually assault minors aged sixteen or seventeen are not required to publicly register as sex offenders. This measure closes those loopholes by expanding registration requirements for sex offenders, mandating public disclosure for offenses against minors, and refining reporting procedures.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the definition of "sexual offense", and the related termination of registration requirements, to include the offenses of:
 - (A) Sexual assault in the fourth degree, where the offender exposes the offender's genitals to another person under circumstances in which the offender's conduct is likely to alarm the other person or put the other person in fear of bodily injury;
 - (B) Incest, except when the perpetrator is under the age of eighteen;
 - (C) Sexual assault of an animal; and
 - (D) Use a computer in the commission of a separate crime, wherein the separate crime is a covered offense subject to covered offender registration laws; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 359, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 359, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1070 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1283

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an exemption from mediation in paternity proceedings where there are allegations of domestic abuse; and
- (2) Clarify the exemption from mediation in divorce proceedings as it relates to domestic abuse.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that in contested paternity and divorce proceedings where allegations of domestic abuse are present, the requirement for mediation can place victims in unsafe and emotionally harmful situations. The existing mediation process may force parties who have experienced domestic abuse to engage with their abuser in a setting that is not conducive to their safety or well-being. This measure seeks to address these concerns by exempting parties alleging domestic abuse from mandatory mediation, ensuring that any mediation is conducted under conditions that prioritize the safety of the victim.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying provisions related to the circumstances when a mediator is authorized to engage in mediation in paternity proceedings where there are allegations of domestic abuse; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1283, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1283, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1071 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 463

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require that the courts make a good faith and diligent effort to seal all court records of any eviction proceeding within a reasonable time if certain conditions are met;
- (2) Authorize the court to seal certain eviction records upon motion by a tenant who is able to demonstrate that certain conditions apply;
- (3) Require the clerk of the court to provide access to sealed eviction records to the tenant;
- (4) Make it a discriminatory practice to discriminate against a person based on the knowledge or belief that the person has a sealed eviction records; and

- (5) Prohibit discrimination in real property transactions against a person with a sealed eviction record.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Medical-Legal Partnership for Children in Hawai'i; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Lahaina Strong; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Public First Law Center and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Judiciary; and Hawai'i Association of REALTORS.

Your Committee finds that eviction records, even when cases are dismissed or resolved in favor of tenants, can create significant obstacles to securing future housing, as once an eviction case is filed, it remains on record and is often used by landlords and screening companies to deny rental applications. This measure seeks to reduce the long-term effects of eviction filings, ensuring fair access to housing and preventing unjust barriers to securing rental opportunities.

However, your Committee finds that this measure may face legal challenge under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. Courts have held that the public has a right to inspect certain court records under the First Amendment. Consequently, the provisions of this measure that require the Judiciary to impose a blanket sealing of all court records relating to eviction proceedings may interfere with a presumptive public right of access in violation of the First Amendment.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the mechanism from the sealing of records to the disassociation of the tenant in the Judiciary's publicly accessible electronic databases to ensure that a legal proceeding cannot be accessed online by the tenant's name;
- (2) Deleting language requiring the clerk of the court to provide access to a sealed record;
- (3) Amending the language prohibiting discriminatory practices to be based on the person's status of being the subject of an eviction action that was disassociated, rather than it being based on having a sealed eviction record, with conforming amendments to effectuate that intent, including deleting the definition of "sealed eviction record"; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 463, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 463, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia, Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1072 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 712

The purpose of this measure is to preserve the integrity of the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program by prohibiting drug manufacturers from denying, restricting, or prohibiting the acquisition, shipping, or delivery of a 340B drug to a pharmacy under contract with any 340B covered entity in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Island Community Health Center; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawai'i Pharmacists Association; The Queen's Health Systems; Hawai'i Pacific Health; AlohaCare; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America and Biotechnology Innovation Organization. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; and Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that the federal 340B Drug Discounting Program is essential for providing health care access to low-income and uninsured populations. The Program requires drug manufacturers to offer significant discounts on outpatient medications to eligible nonprofit hospitals and safety net providers, rural hospitals, community health centers, and Native Hawaiian health centers.

Your Committee further finds that, while the Program allows health facilities to stretch limited resources, drug manufacturers have consistently tried to undermine the benefits provided by the Program by limiting the use of contract pharmacies by 340B covered entities. Contract pharmacies play a vital role in ensuring that patients can access medications, especially in rural areas where many hospitals do not have an in-house pharmacy. This measure deters behavior by manufacturers from restricting or denying access for pharmacies contracted with 340B covered entities to purchase 340B drugs at discounted prices under the federal 340B Drug Discounting Program.

Your Committee notes that concerns were raised that the Office of Consumer Protection was not the appropriate agency to be enforcing contractual disputes between private entities.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the provisions of this measure from the jurisdiction of the Office of Consumer Protection and keeping the provisions under the enforcement authority of the Department of the Attorney General;
- (2) Authorizing injured 340B covered entities to file a civil action to enjoin a violation and awarding reasonable attorney's fees and costs if the judgment is in favor of the 340B covered entity;
- (3) Specifying that actions to enforce a violation are subject to a four-year limitation; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 712, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 712, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Cochran, Kahaloa, Garcia, Shimizu).

SCRep. 1073 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 901

The purpose of this measure is to authorize public charter schools to appeal directly to the Board of Education on matters that materially affect the school's operation, governance, or funding.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Charter Schools Network. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Board of Education; and State Public Charter School Commission.

Your Committee finds that public charter schools are key components of Hawaii's education system, offering diverse learning opportunities for students. However, charter schools currently have restricted options for addressing disputes that impact their governance, funding, or daily operations. This measure enhances their ability to seek fair resolution by permitting direct appeals to the Board of Education on significant matters affecting their functioning.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the grounds for an appeal of non-renewal or revocation of a charter contract;
- (2) Clarifying the process for public charter schools to appeal directly to the Board of Education on matters that materially affect the school's operation, governance, or funding; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 901, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 901, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti). Noes, 1 (Perruso). Excused, 2 (Cochran, Todd).

SCRep. 1074 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 966

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish statewide, uniform standards to promote agricultural tourism activities in the State for all counties that have adopted an agricultural tourism ordinance;
- (2) Require agricultural tourism activities to be registered by the respective county planning commission; and
- (3) Require agricultural tourism activities to coexist with an agricultural activity on a farming operation and provide for the termination of agricultural tourism activities upon the cessation of the agricultural activity.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Mahina Farms Maui, LLC; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Heavenly Hawaiian Farms; Hawaii Coffee Growers Association; and Maui Chamber of Commerce. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Hawai'i Tourism Authority; and Hawaii Cattlemen's Council.

Your Committee finds that the lack of consistency in agricultural tourism permitting across the State creates significant barriers for farmers and ranchers, which hinders the growth of agricultural tourism and limits its potential as a revenue stream. The varying permitting processes, standards, and definitions across the counties cause confusion, disrupt business models, and exacerbate zoning and permitting challenges. This measure will streamline the approval process for permitting and ensure that agricultural tourism is integrated with ongoing agricultural operations by establishing uniform, statewide standards for agricultural tourism activities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that authorized agricultural tourism to include overnight accommodations;
- (2) Requiring agricultural tourism activities to be registered with the county planning department before commencement of the activity and requiring additional information for registration;
- (3) Providing that the authorization to conduct agricultural tourism activities shall not be terminated if the cessation of the agricultural activity is temporary and due to inclement weather, disease or pest infestation, market and supply chain disruptions, or change in crop type;
- (4) Deleting language that would have included agricultural tourism activities and roadside stands or retail activities in enclosed structures under agricultural-based commercial operations authorized in agricultural districts;
- (5) Authorizing, rather than requiring, agricultural districts to include areas that are not used for, or that are not suited to, agricultural and ancillary activities by reason of topography, soils, and other related characteristics;
- (6) Reinstating language that defined plantation community subdivisions as an established subdivision or cluster of employee housing, community buildings, and agricultural support buildings on land currently or formerly owned, leased, or operated by a sugar or pineapple plantation, for purposes of permitted uses within agricultural districts;
- (7) Reinstating language regarding minimum lot sizes in agricultural districts; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that the Department of Agriculture testified that the deletion of language in a previous draft that prohibited revenue from all agriculture tourism activities from exceeding the revenue from the agricultural activity conducted on the farming operation could have served as an indicator that agricultural tourism activities are accessory and secondary to the principal agricultural use. According to the Department, without this language, there is no other objective indicator to ensure agricultural tourism activities are accessory and secondary to the principal agricultural use.

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. 966, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 966, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1075 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1006

The purpose of this measure is to include agricultural tourism in the definition of "enterprise" to authorize the Agribusiness Development Corporation to financially support farming businesses engaged in agricultural tourism.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and Hawaii Food+ Policy.

Your Committee finds that agritourism is a growing industry that blends agriculture with tourism, providing farmers with new revenue opportunities while educating the public about local food production. This measure expands the definition of "enterprise" to include agritourism, enabling the Agribusiness Development Corporation to offer financial and technical assistance to farmers developing agritourism ventures such as farm tours, workshops, and farm-to-table experiences.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1006, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1006, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Perruso). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1076 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1334

The purpose of this measure is to exempt the donation of wild game, including wild game meat products, to charitable, religious, or nonprofit organizations from certain laws regarding the inspection and transportation of meat for the purpose of feeding needy individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Land and Natural Resources; one member of the Maui County Council; Maui Food Bank; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Maui Adaptation Project; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Pūlama Lāna'i; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that food insecurity remains a significant issue in Hawaii. Additionally, the unchecked growth of invasive axis deer has led to environmental degradation and agricultural losses. This measure seeks to address these concerns by exempting wild game meat donations, including axis deer, from certain inspection and transportation regulations, making it easier for hunters and landowners to donate meat to charitable organizations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the definition of "wild game"; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1334, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1334, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1077 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 194

The purpose of this measure is to designate May 22 of each year as Maritime Day.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State AFL-CIO; Hawai'i Nurses Association OPEIU Local 50; Pride at Work Hawai'i; University of Hawaii Professional Assembly; International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, Moving Picture Technicians, Artists, and Allied Crafts of the United States, its Territories, and Canada, Local 665; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the maritime industry is an essential part of the economy and culture of the State. Maritime workers play a critical role in maintaining the seamless flow of commerce into and out of the State. Your Committee believes that designating May 22 as Maritime Day serves as a meaningful way to honor the dedicated efforts and contributions of maritime workers.

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. 194, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Todd).

SCRep. 1078 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 957

The purpose of this measure is to designate the first Friday in May of each year as Lau Lau Day.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that lau lau is a treasured Hawaiian dish that represents cultural heritage, community, and tradition. Its preparation and sharing are central to gatherings, celebrations, and fundraisers, highlighting its deep-rooted significance. By designating the first Friday in May as "Lau Lau Day", this measure helps preserve lau lau as a meaningful part of Hawaii's culinary and cultural identity.

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. 957, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 2 (Cochran, Todd).

SCRep. 1079 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 302

The purpose of this measure is to repeal the requirement that a provider-patient relationship be established in person for the purposes of certifying a qualifying patient for the medical use of cannabis, with certain restrictions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Aloha Green Apothecary; Cure Oahu; Hawai'i Cannabis Industry Association; and Big Island Grown. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Akamai Cannabis Consulting.

Your Committee finds that the existing medical cannabis laws prohibit the issuance of a written certification for the use of medical cannabis by means of telehealth unless a bona fide provider-patient relationship has been previously established in person. Your Committee further finds that the laws relating to telehealth were revised in 2021, which for all other medications except for opiates and medical cannabis, allows the issuance of prescriptions through telehealth consultations without the establishment of a bona fide provider-patient relationship in person. This differentiated treatment of medical cannabis from other medications appears arbitrary and this measure eliminates this barrier, providing greater access to necessary medication for patients.

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. 302, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1080 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 706

The purpose of this measure is to require all skateboard users under the age of sixteen to wear a helmet while operating a skateboard on public property.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; AAA Hawai'i; Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children; and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, more than two hundred thirty thousand people with skateboarding-related injuries received emergency treatment at a hospital in 2022, with more than one-third involving children under the age of fifteen. Your Committee further finds that non-helmeted skateboards have a sixty percent greater risk of sustaining an injury than helmeted skateboarders. This measure will align Hawaii with other states that have passed mandatory helmet laws for minors who are skateboarding on streets and other public properties such as skateparks.

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. 706, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1081 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1158

The purpose of this measure is to limit the civil liability of individuals who render firefighting services with a firefighting vessel, upon reasonable command, at any of the State's commercial harbors or roadsteads, any commercial harbor or waterfront improvement belonging to or controlled by the State, or any vessel within a commercial harbor or roadstead to only damages resulting from the individual's gross negligence or wanton acts or omissions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and Hawai'i Harbors User Group. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that there are privately owned assets and vessels that are home ported in commercial ports across the State and are equipped with firefighting tools, such as fire monitors and water cannons. However, the owners of these assets and vessels have been reluctant to use them to assist county fire departments and provide firefighting services because of concerns over possible civil liability. Limiting the civil liability for those private individuals to cases of gross negligence, as proposed by this measure, will encourage these individuals to provide assistance to county fire departments and enhance maritime safety by preventing and rapidly responding to maritime fires.

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. 1158, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1082 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1066

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Add the Head Start State Collaboration Office Director as an ex officio, non-voting member of the Early Learning Board; and
- (2) Require the Early Learning Board to invite the President of the Head Start Association of Hawaii, or the President's designee, to serve as an ex officio, non-voting member of the Board.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Early Learning Board and Executive Office on Early Learning.

Your Committee finds that the federal Head Start Act mandates each state to establish a State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care, which in Hawaii is the Early Learning Board. To comply with federal requirements, the Early Learning Board must include representation from Head Start programs operating in the State. This measure updates state law by adding the Head Start State Collaboration Office Director as an ex officio member of the Early Learning Board and inviting the President of the Head Start Association of Hawaii, or the President's designee, to join the Board in a non-voting capacity.

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. 1066, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Todd).

SCRep. 1083 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1343

The purpose of this measure is to require the Board of Education to adopt a policy that bans the use of cell phones and related devices by students during school hours.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Board of Education; Office of the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that cell phone use in schools disrupts student learning, reduces engagement, and impacts overall academic success. Furthermore, excessive screen time limits face-to-face interactions, which are essential for students' social and emotional development. This measure directs the Board of Education to establish a statewide policy prohibiting student use of cell phones and similar devices, such as smartwatches and wireless headphones, during school hours to foster a more productive, inclusive, and distraction-free learning environment.

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. 1343, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Todd).

SCRep. 1084 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1141

The purpose of this measure is to require lease extensions approved by the Board of Land and Natural Resources to be drafted on the most current approved lease form, to be subject to the most current leasing practices and policies, not rules, of the Board of the Land and Natural Resources, and control over conflicting or inconsistent provisions in a lease being extended.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that updated lease terms and conditions will allow the State to secure a fair return for the use of public lands, while also reducing liability for outdated structures on those lands.

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. 1141, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1085 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 510

The purpose of this measure is to amend the conditions, manner, and areas in which the Commission on Water Resource Management can declare and provide notice of water shortages and emergencies.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Honolulu Board of Water Supply; Hawai'i Climate Change and Health Working Group; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii and Hawai'i Farm Bureau.

Your Committee finds that the Commission on Water Resource Management should have the ability to adopt water shortage plans, permit classifications, and criteria outside of water management areas and should apply these plans to the owners and operators of wells and stream diversion works. Your Committee further finds that it is necessary to ensure effective and transparent planning for water shortages within and outside of designated water management areas. This measure addresses this need by amending the conditions, manner, and areas in which the Commission on Water Resource Management can declare and provide notice of water shortages and emergencies.

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. 510, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1086 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 511

The purpose of this measure is to provide that a survey of the land that is to be set aside shall not be a condition precedent to the setting aside of public lands to any department or agency of the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and Hawaii Cattlemen's Council. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that this measure expedites the process for setting aside public lands by providing that a survey of the land to be set aside shall not be a condition precedent to the setting aside of public lands to any department or agency of the State.

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. 511, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1087 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1348

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Board of Land and Natural Resources to lease public lands for recreation-residence use by public lottery and restrict participation in the public lottery to residents of the county in which the leased land is located.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Kōke'e Leaseholders Association; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that the demand for recreational-residence use of public lands in the State has increased, presenting a need for a more equitable and systematic method of allocating these lands. While direct negotiations for leases have historically been an option, this process has sometimes resulted in uneven access, favoring certain individuals or groups over others. This measure enhances the transparency of the leasing process of certain public lands while also maintaining protections for the environmental, cultural, and scenic integrity of the leased lands.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Defining the term "recreation-residence";
- (2) Requiring the Board of Land and Natural Resources to lease lands within a state park or forest reserve and other lands set aside under executive order for recreation-residence use by public lottery;
- (3) Clarifying the provisions for renewing, rather than extending, the recreation-residence use lease;
- (4) Requiring the Board of Land and Natural Resources to limit participation in the public lottery of recreation-residence use leases to residents of the same county in which the land to be leased is located; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1348, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1348, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1088 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 345

The purpose of this measure is to establish 'ōpae 'ula as the state shrimp.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Hawai'i Wildlife Fund; Hawai'i Ocean Legislative Task Force; and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that anchialine pools, or wai 'ōpae, are ecologically and culturally significant ecosystems unique to Hawaii that serve as critical habitats for native species, including the endemic 'ōpae 'ula shrimp. Designating 'ōpae 'ula as the state shrimp will raise awareness about the importance of anchialine pool conservation and the threats posed by invasive species, coastal development, and pollution.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making a technical amendment for the purpose of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 345, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 345, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Todd).

SCRep. 1089 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 458

The purpose of this measure is to designate April 27 of every year as Brother Joseph Dutton Day.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services; Joseph Dutton Guild; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that Brother Joseph Dutton dedicated nearly forty-five years of his life to the residents of Kalaupapa. This measure ensures that Brother Joseph Dutton's legacy will endure for future generations. Your Committee further finds that this measure will also allow the State to annually reflect upon its history while increasing awareness of, and educational opportunities about, the residents of Kalaupapa.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 458, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 458, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Todd).

SCRep. 1090 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1162

The purpose of this measure is to require all applicants for a motorcycle instruction permit to successfully complete a basic motorcycle rider course approved by the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Customer Services' Division of Motor Vehicle Registration of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that requiring applicants for motorcycle instruction permits to complete a basic motorcycle rider course before receiving the motorcycle instruction permit will enhance road safety and protect motorists and motorcyclists who use Hawaii's roads.

Your Committee notes the concerns raised in written testimony by the Division of Motor Vehicle Registration of the City and County of Honolulu Department of Customer Services regarding the feasibility of implementing this measure by the proposed date of July 1, 2026.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that a person shall not operate a motor vehicle in connection with the driving training course without a valid temporary instruction permit unless it is a motorcycle that is being used for training purposes on an enclosed state certified training range; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1162, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1162, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1091 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 226

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit a person from installing, mounting, adhering, affixing, or using any sun screening device in conjunction with the glazing material of a motor vehicle with mirrored, metallic, red, yellow, amber, or blue tint;
- (2) Require all drivers and passengers of motor vehicles with applied tint to fully roll down their windows when stopped by a law enforcement officer at a traffic stop;
- (3) Lower the minimum light transmittance levels for sun screening devices on certain motor vehicles;
- (4) Exempt side windows to the rear of the driver and rear windows on sedans from sun screening device requirements; and
- (5) Increase the minimum and maximum fines for violating sun screening device requirements.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; T&T Tinting Specialists, Inc.; Kaloko Tinting LLC; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that existing regulations that permit window tints with a light transmittance limit of thirty-five percent fail to adequately address the growing concerns surrounding vehicle interior heat due to climate change. However, your Committee acknowledges the impact darker tints have on visibility for drivers and its potential safety concerns with law enforcement officers. Your Committee believes that this measure strikes a balance between mitigating

heat-related issues and ensuring public safety by prohibiting certain high-reflectivity and low-transmittance tints, while also implementing stricter enforcement measures.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 226, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 226, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1092 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1159

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require masters or persons in charge of vessels to follow an order by a harbor master to evacuate a commercial harbor during emergencies;
- (2) Establish higher penalties for noncompliance with evacuation orders; and
- (3) Require fines collected for violations to be paid into the Harbor Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Holo Holo Charters, Inc.; Hawaii Longline Association; Ocean Tourism Coalition; Captain Andy's Sailing Inc.; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Matson Navigation Company, Inc.

Your Committee finds that the State is susceptible to various hazards, including hurricanes, tsunamis, and volcanic eruptions and it is crucial to have a coordinated, swift response to protect lives, safeguard property, and minimize damage to the State's harbors. Your Committee believes that having an enforceable evacuation mechanism will greatly improve the State's ability to respond to emergencies and avoid chaos in commercial harbor zones.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1159, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1159, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1093 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1137

The purpose of this measure is to amend the definition of "beach restoration" to expand the types of activities the State recognizes as restorative and beneficial to beach lands in response to sea level rise and beach loss.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program; School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology's Climate Resilience Collaborative at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa; Waikīkī Beach Special Improvement District Association; Surfrider Foundation Hawai'i Region; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Free Access Coalition; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that expanding the definition of "beach restoration" allows for a wider range of nature-based activities, such as dune restoration and removal of derelict structures, to be supported through the beach restoration program. This broadens opportunities for community involvement and strengthens efforts to enhance shoreline resilience and public trust.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1137, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1137, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1094 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 732

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow single-family residences that are less than three thousand five hundred square feet in floor area and not part of a larger development, regardless of development valuation, to be eligible for a special management area minor permit; and
- (2) Increase the valuation of development that determines the necessity of a special management area minor permit or special management area use permit to \$750,000 and require that amount to be increased every five years for inflation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; American Institute of Architects, Hawai'i State Council; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that special management areas are areas specially controlled to limit shoreline development to avoid the permanent loss of valuable resources and the foreclosure of planning and management options, while ensuring adequate access, by dedication or other means, to public owned or used beaches, recreation areas, and natural reserves. However, the permit valuation thresholds have not been updated to reflect the rising costs of labor, materials, and development over time. This measure raises the permit valuations to account for the increased costs.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying when inflation adjustments begin for purposes of a special management area minor permit and special management area use permit; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 732, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 732, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1095 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1087

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to assume historic preservation review of the effect on any proposed project for lands under its jurisdiction except for certain projects; and
- (2) Transfer the administrative placement of the Island Burial Councils to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and Office of Hawaiian Affairs. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Historic Hawai'i Foundation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that under existing law, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is required to consult with the Department of Land and Natural Resources regarding the effect of any proposed project relating to lands under the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' jurisdiction on historic properties or burial sites. Your Committee recognizes that this review process is delaying projects that would provide housing for beneficiaries of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. Streamlining this process by allowing the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to assume review of these projects, as intended by this measure, will allow the construction of these proposed projects to be expedited.

Your Committee further finds that the Office of Hawaiian Affairs requested in oral testimony that the provisions transferring the administrative placement of the Island Burial Councils to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs be deleted. The Office of Hawaiian Affairs testified that it is working on a resolution to explore the transfer of Island Burial Councils.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the necessary qualifications for a Hawaiian Home Lands Preservation Officer;
- (2) Deleting language that would have transferred the administrative placement of the Island Burial Councils to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1087, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1087, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1096 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 969

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the construction, modification, or expansion of any waste or disposal facility on land that is near or above a significant aquifer, as determined by the Department of Health.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Honolulu Board of Water Supply; Free Access Coalition; Green Party of Hawai'i; Country Talk Story; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Conservation Council for Hawai'i; The Moanalua Gardens Foundation; Justice and Witness Missional Team of the Hawai'i Conference United Church of Christ; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui and Department of Public Works of the County of Kaua'i. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Environmental Services of the City and County of Honolulu; Energy Justice Network; and Reworld.

Your Committee finds that the State should take preemptive action to minimize the risk of pollution and contamination of water sources, including aquifers. This measure addresses this need by prohibiting the construction, modification, or expansion of any waste or disposal facility on land that is near or above a significant aquifer.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying what is considered a waste or disposal facility; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 969, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 969, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia, Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1097 Finance on H.B. No. 792

The purpose of this measure is to clarify the Office of the Legislative Analyst.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the League of Women Voters of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 792, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1098 Finance on H.B. No. 1064

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Effectuate the recommendations of the "Phase 3" Forward-Looking Report by Fire Safety Research Institute on the August 2023 Maui wildfires and further clarify the role of the State Fire Marshal; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the operations of the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Defense; Hawai'i Climate Advisory Team; Kamehameha Schools; Hawaiian Electric; AARP Hawaii; and Lāhainā Strong. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of the Governor; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Department of the Attorney General; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii State Fire Council; and Hawaii Insurers Council.

Your Committee notes the concerns of the Office of the Governor in its written testimony that the Office of the State Fire Marshal and State Fire Council be transferred to the Department of Defense to oversee fire safety and mitigation matters rather than in the Office of the Governor.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1064, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1099 Finance on H.B. No. 960

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend the maximum value of capital advancement contracts that may be executed by the Department of Transportation without legislative approval;
- (2) Repeal the requirement for the Department of Transportation to obtain legislative approval through a concurrent resolution for capital advancement contracts greater than \$2,000,000;
- (3) Amend the total aggregate value of capital advancement contracts that the Department of Transportation may enter into in a fiscal year; and
- (4) Establish certain reporting requirements related to capital advancement contracts.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Young Brothers, LLC; Matson Navigation Company, Inc.; Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce; and two individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 960, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1100 Finance on H.B. No. 110

The purpose of this measure is to modify certain benchmark goals and timelines for the Department of Education to purchase a certain amount of fresh local agricultural products and local value-added processed, agricultural, or food products.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; Hawaii Food+ Policy; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture and Department of Education.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 110, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1101 Finance on H.B. No. 620

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Education to include the instruction of braille and provision of braille instructional materials under certain circumstances; and
- (2) Require and appropriate funds to the Department of Education to establish and maintain a braille literacy resource center.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission; National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Education; and Special Education Advisory Council.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 620, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1102 Finance on H.B. No. 628

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Department of Education to establish a program to award high school diplomas to persons:

- (1) Who did not receive a diploma as a result of compulsory or voluntary induction into the United States armed services during certain time periods; or
- (2) Whose high school education was interrupted due to wartime practices during World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Office of Veterans Services; Hawaii Military Affairs Council; and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 628, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1103 Finance on H.B. No. 563

The purpose of this measure is to support the University of Hawaii's Space Science and Engineering Initiative by appropriating funds for salaries, office supplies, stipends, and other operational expenses for certain programs at the University of Hawaii at Manoa Institute for Astronomy.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce; Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Hawaii; The Success Factory - NexTech Hawai'i; Maunakea Observatories; Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 563, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1104 Finance on H.B. No. 1168

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii to issue revenue bonds and appropriate funds out of the revenue bond proceeds to finance qualifying priority capital improvement projects of the University of Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1168, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1105 Finance on H.B. No. 943

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Expand existing crisis intervention programs by implementing a homeless triage and treatment center program for homeless individuals and individuals at risk of being homeless, and who have substance abuse issues or mental illness, within the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division in the Department of Health; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to the Department of Health to implement the program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; State Health Planning and Development Agency; State Council on Mental Health; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; The Institute for Human Services, Inc.; and Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 943, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1106 Finance on H.B. No. 214

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow a retirant of at least six months to be employed without reenrollment in the Employees' Retirement System and without loss or interruption of retirement benefits if the retirant is employed as a school resource officer or investigator in a position identified by the Department of Law Enforcement or Department of the Attorney General, respectively, as a labor shortage or difficult-to-fill position, subject to certain conditions; and
- (2) Require the Director of Human Resources of the appropriate state jurisdiction, or the human resources management chief executive of each county, to include in their annual reports to the Legislature details on the employment of retirants as school resource officers or investigators.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Education; and Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 214, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1107 Finance on H.B. No. 806

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Department of Law Enforcement to conduct sting operations on Oahu to enforce the Fireworks Control Law.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Honolulu Police Department; Hawaiian Humane Society; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Libertarian Party of Hawaii and two individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 806, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Kusch, Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1108 Finance on H.B. No. 984

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Lower and fix the State's Agricultural Loan Program's interest rates, increase loan limits, and reduce the required number of credit denials;
- (2) Establish a program for a secured line of credit and create a new loan initiative for farm expansion to grow import replacement crops or crops for farm-to-state programs; and
- (3) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Ulupono Initiative; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; and three individuals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the cap amounts for various loans to unspecified amounts and percentages.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 984, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 984, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1109 Finance on H.B. No. 1450

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a three-year Climate-Resilient Food Systems Grant Pilot Program to provide grants to agricultural producers in the State for the acquisition of special-purpose equipment, technology, and ancillary costs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Research and Development, County of Hawai'i; 350Hawaii.org; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Mālama Kaua'i; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; and Hawaii Food+ Policy.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the minimum and maximum grant amounts to unspecified amounts.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1450, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1450, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1110 Finance on H.B. No. 1187

The purpose of this measure is to phase in a ban on state departments and administratively attached agencies from purchasing imported flowers and lei.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Watanabe Floral, Inc.; Cindy's Lei & Flower Shoppe LLC; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the State Procurement Office and Hawai'i Farm Bureau.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1187, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1111 Finance on H.B. No. 1337

The purpose of this measure is to require the University of Hawaii at Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience to establish an Endemic Plant Seed Bank Pilot Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Big Island Invasive Species Committee; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1337, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1112 Finance on H.B. No. 504

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend the Transient Accommodations Tax rate beginning on January 1, 2027;
- (2) Beginning January 1, 2027, require a \$20 Transient Accommodation Tax to be levied per night for each furnishing of transient accommodations in exchange for points, miles, or other amounts provided through a membership, loyalty, or rewards program; and
- (3) Appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for protection, management, and restoration of the State's natural resources.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Mālama-Pūpūkea-Waimea; The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i and Palmyra; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; Hawai'i Ocean Legislative Task Force; Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Kohala Coast Resort Association; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; and Maui Chamber of Commerce. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Hawai'i Tourism Authority; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; Kua'āina Ulu Auamo; Hawai'i Reef & Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Mālama Learning Center; Care for 'Āina Now Coalition; Resources Legacy Fund; Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the appropriation may be used for various environmental stewardship projects;

- (2) Authorizing the Department of Land and Natural Resources to utilize funds for consultants, personnel, contracts, and administrative costs to develop and implement the environmental stewardship projects;
- (3) Requiring the Department of Land and Natural Resources to submit reports to the Legislature on funded projects;
- (4) Establishing a Reimbursable General Obligation Bond Debt Service Special Fund to fund debt service payments on general obligation bonds; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 504, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 504, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14; Ayes with Reservations (Reyes Oda). Noes, 1 (Alcos). Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1113 Finance on H.B. No. 97

The purpose of this measure is to establish a new regulatory framework for the sale of travel insurance in the State, including licensing and registration requirements for limited lines travel insurance producers.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; AGA Service Company; U.S. Travel Insurance Association; American Property Casualty Insurance Association; and Crum & Forster.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 97, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1114 Finance on H.B. No. 348

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit lodging establishments from providing personal care products in small plastic containers within sleeping room accommodations, any space within sleeping room accommodations, or bathrooms used by the public or guests;
- (2) Authorize the Department of Health to inspect sleeping rooms and bathrooms in lodging establishments and issue citations for violations; and
- (3) Establish civil penalties for violations and authorize the Attorney General to bring an action in the circuit environmental court for the imposition of civil penalties.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Free Access Coalition; Windward Coalition; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Surfrider Foundation, Kaua'i Chapter; Surfrider Foundation Hawai'i Region; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Marine Science Club at Hawai'i Pacific University; Starn O'Toole Marcus & Fisher; and Maui Chamber of Commerce.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 348, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, 1 (Alcos). Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1115 Finance on H.B. No. 448

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation to assist small businesses, including those related to the tourism sector, with technology enablement and require the Corporation to report to the Legislature regarding the use of those funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Tourism Authority; Hawai'i Technology Development Corporation; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Mana Up; Aloha Shoyu Company, Ltd.; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 448, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1116 Finance on H.B. No. 449

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to assist in the development and promotion of Hawaii-manufactured products through the INNOVATE Hawaii program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Technology Development Corporation; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Watanabe Floral, Inc.; Mana Up; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce; and two individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 449, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1117 Finance on H.B. No. 373

The purpose of this measure is to repeal the sunset provision related to the counties' authorization to develop, construct, finance, refinance, or otherwise provide mixed-use developments.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; one member of the Maui County Council; and Office of Housing of the City and County of Honolulu.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 373, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1118 Finance on H.B. No. 417

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Housing Efficiency and Innovation Subaccount within the Rental Housing Revolving Fund to be used for providing loans or credit enhancements to certain projects on state or county-owned land and state-funded housing projects; and
- (2) Authorize the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to transfer funds between the Housing Efficiency and Innovation Subaccount and the Rental Housing Revolving Fund without legislative approval.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Holomua Collaborative; Title Guaranty of Hawai'i; HPM Building Supply; Hawai'i Gas; Mana Up; Tori Richard, Ltd.; and Church of the Crossroads. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 417, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kitagawa, Ward).

SCRep. 1119 Finance on H.B. No. 432

The purpose of this measure is to provide a dedicated source of funds to finance mixed-income rental housing projects by:

- (1) Establishing the Mixed-Income Subaccount within the Rental Housing Revolving Fund that targets workforce rental housing projects for persons and families with incomes at or below one hundred forty percent of the area median income;
- (2) Authorizing the Director of Finance to transfer funds from the Rental Housing Revolving Fund into the Mixed-Income Subaccount; and
- (3) Appropriating funds into and out of the Mixed-Income Subaccount of the Rental Housing Revolving Fund for the purposes of the subaccount.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Office of Housing of the City and County of Honolulu; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Hawai'i YIMBY; Holomua Collaborative; Title Guaranty of Hawai'i; HPM Building Supply; Hawai'i Gas; Mana Up; Tori Richard, Ltd.; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 432, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kitagawa, Ward).

SCRep. 1120 Finance on H.B. No. 739

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Kamaaina Homes Program to provide funding through the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund to the counties to purchase voluntary deed restrictions relating to property occupancy from eligible homeowners or homebuyers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Department of Transportation; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Kaua'i County Housing Agency; Hawaii State Youth Commission; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; AARP Hawai'i; Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Aloha United Way; ALICE Initiative; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Avalon Development Company; Hawai'i YIMBY; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Tradewind Group; Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Title Guaranty of Hawai'i; HPM Building Supply; Hawai'i Gas; Mana Up; Tori Richard, Ltd.; aio; Housing Hawai'i's Future; Kobayashi Group; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Wall to Wall Studios; Save Medicaid Hawaii; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from LIMBY Hawai'i. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Office of Housing of the City and County of Honolulu; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Holomua Collaborative; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 739, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kitagawa, Ward).

SCRep. 1121 Finance on H.B. No. 833

The purpose of this measure is to support the expansion of community land trusts by authorizing, and appropriating funds for, the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to establish a five-year Community Land Trust Equity Pilot Program to provide community land trusts with a low-cost line of credit for affordable housing purposes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Kohala Community Land Trust; Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement; Lahaina Community Land Trust; LIMBY Hawai'i; Maui Chamber of Commerce; HI Good Neighbor; and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 833, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kitagawa, Ward).

SCRep. 1122 Finance on H.B. No. 1097

The purpose of this measure is to reduce the period of time the Hawaii Public Housing Authority is required to store the unclaimed property of a tenant evicted from public housing from thirty to fourteen days.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1097, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kitagawa, Ward).

SCRep. 1123 Finance on H.B. No. 1409

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend the funding priorities of the Rental Housing Revolving Fund to incentivize development in areas that satisfy transit-supportive density requirements;
- (2) Allocate a minimum percentage of the Rental Housing Revolving Fund for certain mixed-income rental housing projects;
- (3) Require the Transit-Oriented Development Infrastructure Improvement District Board to consider the infrastructure needs of transit-supportive density requirements; and
- (4) Require the strategic plan developed by the Hawaii Interagency Council for Transit-Oriented Development to delineate county-designated transit-oriented development areas for each county.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Hawai'i YIMBY; Holomua Collaborative; Housing Hawai'i's Future; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1409, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kitagawa, Ward).

SCRep. 1124 Finance on H.B. No. 1410

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Supportive Housing Special Fund;
- (2) Restructure the conveyance tax to a marginal rate system and adjust the tax for multifamily residential properties to reflect value on a per-unit basis;
- (3) Allocate a portion of conveyance tax revenues to the Supportive Housing Special Fund; and
- (4) Allocate a portion of conveyance tax revenues to the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund to fund infrastructure programs in county-designated transit-oriented development areas that meet minimum standards of transit-supportive density.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Church of the Crossroads; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Save Medicaid Hawaii; and eight individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Taxation; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i and Palmyra; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1410, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13; Ayes with Reservations (Reyes Oda). Noes, 1 (Alcos). Excused, 2 (Kitagawa, Ward).

SCRep. 1125 Finance on H.B. No. 1428

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Appropriate funds to the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to enhance the capacity of Hawaii's United States Department of Housing and Urban Development-certified housing counseling agencies to provide housing counseling, renter education, homebuyer education, and eviction and foreclosure intervention to certain low- and moderate-income households; and
- (2) Require the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to submit a report to the Legislature regarding services provided by the certified housing counseling agencies.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation and Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1428, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kitagawa, Ward).

SCRep. 1126 Finance on H.B. No. 1467

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for the Strengthen Hawaii Homes Program within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to administer grants to retrofit residential properties to enhance resilience against disaster impacts and reduce potential insurance liabilities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Climate Advisory Team; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; and Hawai'i Executive Collaborative Climate Hawai'i partners. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Office of Information Practices; and Makakilo/Kapolei/Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board No. 34.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1467, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kitagawa, Ward).

SCRep. 1127 Finance on H.B. No. 606

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Extend the sunset date of the Act 279 Special Fund to June 30, 2028;
- (2) Deposit funds into the Act 279 Special Fund and appropriate funds out of the Special Fund for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; and
- (3) Require the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to submit a strategic plan to the Legislature no later than December 10, 2025; and
- (4) Require the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to submit an annual report to the Legislature at least twenty days before the convening of each regular session, beginning with the Regular Session of 2026, for the duration of this measure.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Ka Lāhui Hawai'i; Kūpa'a Lāhui Alliance; American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i; and numerous individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 606, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kitagawa, Ward).

SCRep. 1128 Finance on H.B. No. 740

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Accessory Dwelling Unit Financing and Deed Restriction Program to allocate funds to the counties to provide grants to eligible homeowners or homebuyers to finance construction costs, development costs, and non-reoccurring closing costs associated with the construction of an accessory dwelling unit and purchase deed restrictions on the property.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; one member of the Maui County Council; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Hawai'i YIMBY; Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement; Holomua Collaborative; Title Guaranty of Hawai'i; HPM Building Supply; Mana Up; Hawai'i Gas; aio; Tori Richard, Ltd.; AARP Hawai'i; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Housing Hawai'i's Future; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Save Medicaid Hawaii; and four individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Office of Housing of the City and County of Honolulu; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; and LIMBY Hawai'i.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 740, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kitagawa, Ward).

SCRep. 1129 Finance on H.B. No. 1009

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Make the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund Equity Pilot Program a permanent program codified in Hawaii Revised Statutes; and
- (2) Allow partial or full repayment of Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund interim loans by eligible developers in the form of unit equity through the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund Equity Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1009, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kitagawa, Ward).

SCRep. 1130 Finance on H.B. No. 1408

The purpose of this measure is to allow the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to utilize the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund as collateral when the Department acts as an eligible borrower for a loan agreement under section 184A of the federal Housing and Community Development Act of 1992, as amended.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1408, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kitagawa, Ward).

SCRep. 1131 Finance on H.B. No. 126

The purpose of this measure is to make the State's property forfeiture process more just by:

- (1) Increasing transparency and accountability surrounding property forfeiture;
- (2) Clarifying which property is subject to forfeiture;
- (3) Amending the authorized disposition of forfeited property and the proceeds thereof; and
- (4) Repealing the provision that requires the Hawaii Omnibus Criminal Forfeiture Act to be construed liberally.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Community Alliance on Prisons; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Honolulu Police Department. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; and Grassroot Institute of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 126, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13; Ayes with Reservations (Alcos). Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Kusch, Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1132 Finance on H.B. No. 134

The purpose of this measure is to require and appropriate funds for the Chief Election Officer to provide a system for the electronic filing of nomination papers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Elections.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 134, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Kusch, Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1133 Finance on H.B. No. 395

The purpose of this measure is to increase compensation for a juror or prospective juror from \$30 to \$50 for each day of attendance at court.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Hawaii State Bar Association; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 395, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Kusch, Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1134 Finance on H.B. No. 396

The purpose of this measure is to increase the rate of compensation and maximum allowable amounts per case for court-appointed counsel in criminal proceedings.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; West Hawai'i Bar Association; Hawaii State Bar Association; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary and Schlueter, Kwiat & Kennedy LLP.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 396, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Kusch, Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1135 Finance on H.B. No. 398

The purpose of this measure is to increase the rate of compensation and maximum allowable amounts per case for court-appointed counsel and guardians ad litem in Family Court proceedings.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Department of Human Services; Office of the Public Defender; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hawaii Coalition for Child Protective Reform; The Law Office of Aaron K. Willis, LLC; West Hawai'i Bar Association; Hawaii State Bar Association; Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i; and seven individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 398, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Kusch, Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1136 Finance on H.B. No. 399

The purpose of this measure is to establish an additional district court judgeship in the First Circuit.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Office of the Public Defender; Hawaii Financial Services Association; Hawaii State Bar Association; and Collection Law Section of the Hawaii State Bar Association.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 399, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Kusch, Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1137 Finance on H.B. No. 401

The purpose of this measure is to establish an additional district court judgeship in the Third Circuit.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Office of the Public Defender; Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Hawai'i; West Hawai'i Bar Association; Hawaii Financial Services Association; Hawaii State Bar Association; Collection Law Section of the Hawaii State Bar Association; and six individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 401, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Kusch, Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1138 Finance on H.B. No. 472

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require digitized identification cards to be accepted as a valid form of identification, under certain conditions; and
- (2) Authorize state and county law enforcement agencies to accept a digitized identification card as proof of a person's identity.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Transportation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 472, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Kusch, Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1139 Finance on H.B. No. 560

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Judiciary for services contracted with community-based organizations that deliver essential services, streamline judicial processes, and support the Judiciary's capacity to effectively meet the needs of vulnerable households.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Parents And Children Together; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; Community Alliance on Prisons; Hawai'i True Cost Coalition; The Legal Clinic; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; EPIC 'Ohana; Aloha United Way; Child & Family Service; Hawai'i Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; The Institute for Human Services, Inc.; The Mediation Center of the Pacific, Inc.; Partners in Development Foundation; Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.; Responsive Caregivers of Hawaii; Samaritan Counseling Center Hawaii; YMCA of Honolulu; Volunteer Legal Services Hawai'i; Share Your Mana; YWCA of Kaua'i; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Ku'ikahi Mediation Center; and SanHi Government Strategies. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary and Department of Human Services.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 560, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Kusch, Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1140 Finance on H.B. No. 648

The purpose of this measure is to establish a two-year pilot program in the Probate Court and Family Court of the First Circuit to fund certain guardianship- and conservatorship-related court resources in situations where the respondent does not have sufficient funds to pay for one or more of the resources and the court has deemed the resource or resources beneficial.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; AARP Hawai'i; Easterseals Hawaii; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary and State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 648, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Kusch, Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1141 Finance on H.B. No. 664

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Office of Gun Violence Prevention to conduct community outreach on gun violence prevention, develop and administer a grant program for gun violence prevention, and develop and administer a gun violence resource bank; and
- (2) Establish the Gun Violence Prevention Special Fund and appropriate funds into and out of the special fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Everytown for Gun Safety; Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, Hawaii Chapter; Students Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, Hawaii Chapter; and six individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Budget and Finance; and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 664, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13; Ayes with Reservations (Alcos). Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Kusch, Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1142 Finance on H.B. No. 727

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a three-year women's court pilot program in the circuit court of the Second and Fifth Circuits, which is intended to acknowledge the distinct pathways that lead women into the criminal justice system and address their individualized needs; and
- (2) Require the Third Circuit of the Judiciary and Big Island Drug Court to conduct an interim study to establish a blueprint for a women's court pilot program in the Third Circuit.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Maui; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Community Alliance on Prisons; and nine individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary and Department of Health.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 727, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Kusch, Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1143 Finance on H.B. No. 871

The purpose of this measure is to clarify that Act 130, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024 (Act 130), which amended the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act to increase the loan limit for direct loans provided by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, takes effect on the earlier of the date of the Secretary of the Interior's notification letter that Act 130 does not require congressional approval, or on the date that approval by the United States Congress becomes law.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 871, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Kusch, Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1144 Finance on H.B. No. 370

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the maximum amount of funds available to candidates who qualify to participate in the partial public financing program;
- (2) Adjust the minimum amount of qualifying contributions certain candidates must receive to participate in the partial public financing program;
- (3) Increase the matching fund payments to candidates in the partial public financing program for excess qualifying contributions; and
- (4) Appropriate funds to increase the amount of funds available in the partial public financing program and for the Campaign Spending Commission to hire more staff to address the anticipated increase in participation in the financing program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Kauai Women's Caucus; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and Campaign Spending Commission.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the maximum amount of funds available to candidates who qualify to participate in the partial public financing program to unspecified percentages of the expenditure limit.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 370, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 370, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, 1 (Alcos). Excused, 3 (Kusch, Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1145 Finance on H.B. No. 550

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow recordings made by law enforcement agencies who are using, controlling, or operating unmanned aerial vehicles to establish probable cause for arrests under the Fireworks Control Law if the unmanned aerial vehicle is recording directly above a public park, street, sidewalk, easement, or any public property and the act leading to the arrest is committed on a public park, street, sidewalk, easement, or other public property; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to the Department of Law Enforcement for the purchase of unmanned aerial vehicles to monitor the use of illegal fireworks.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Honolulu Police Department; Hawaiian Humane Society; and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Libertarian Party of Hawaii; and two individuals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 550, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 550, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Kusch, Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1146 Finance on H.B. No. 990

The purpose of this measure is to satisfy several claims against the State, its officers, or its employees.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and Department of Education. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding four additional claims that were resolved; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 990, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 990, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Kusch, Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1147 Finance on H.B. No. 175

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require owners or lessees of real property to maintain their property and establish penalties for failure to do so;
- (2) Require the Department of Agriculture to adopt rules for the enforcement and collection of fines for violations relating to the proliferation of invasive species; and
- (3) Require the Office of the State Fire Marshal to adopt rules for the enforcement and collection of fines for violations relating to the prevention of wildfires and other public safety hazards.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Lāhainā Strong; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Building Owners and Managers Association of Hawai'i; and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 175, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1148 Finance on H.B. No. 299

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Native Resources and Fire Protection Program and Hawaii Invasive Species Council to continue to control and eradicate invasive species in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Health; Hawaii Invasive Species Council; Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species; O'ahu Invasive Species Committee; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Climate Change and Health Working Group; Life of the Land; Green Party of Hawai'i; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Forest Industry Association; Mālama Learning Center; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 299, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1149 Finance on H.B. No. 306

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a minimum penalty, and amend the maximum penalty with scheduled incremental increases, per violation of the State Water Code and clarify what constitutes a separate offense; and
- (2) Require the Commission on Water Resource Management to consider certain factors when imposing penalties.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Ulupono Initiative; Lāhainā Strong; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Honolulu Board of Water Supply.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 306, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15; Ayes with Reservations (Lamosao, Miyake). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1150 Finance on H.B. No. 309

The purpose of this measure is to establish a working group within the University of Hawai'i Sea Grant Program to develop an inventory of state-owned fishponds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawai'i Ocean Legislative Task Force; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Ali'i Pauahi Hawaiian Civic Club; The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i and Palmyra; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program and Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation Commission.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 309, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1151 Finance on H.B. No. 316

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the continuation of the Green Jobs Youth Corps Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Energy Office; Hawai'i Forest Industry Association; Holomua Collaborative; Coalition Earth; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Re-use Hawai'i; Kupu; 350Hawaii.org; Hawai'i Energy; Mālama Learning Center; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation Commission.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 316, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1152 Finance on H.B. No. 505

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Red Hill Water Alliance Initiative (WAI) policy coordinator to serve as the State's lead on WAI initiatives and work with state and county agencies and appropriate federal entities on WAI initiatives; and
- (2) Create the Red Hill Remediation Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; University of Hawai'i System; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Honolulu Board of Water Supply; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hui Malama Pono Hawai'i; Coalition Earth; Ka Lāhui Hawai'i; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 505, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1153 Finance on H.B. No. 506

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Oahu branch of the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Ocean Legislative Task Force; Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Hawai'i Marine Education and Research Center; Mālama Learning Center; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 506, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1154 Finance on H.B. No. 649

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Small Boat Harbor Commercial Vessel Special Fund;
- (2) Increase moorage fees for commercial vessels;
- (3) Require that revenue from the fee increase be used by the Department of Land and Natural Resources for improvements that primarily benefit commercial vessels that utilize state small boat harbors; and
- (4) Authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds, with debt service to be paid from special funds, for repairs of various small boat harbors.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Holo Holo Charters, Inc.; Splashers Ocean Adventures Inc. DBA Kona Snorkel Trips; Sea Sport Cruises, Inc.; Body Glove Hawaii; Extended Horizons Inc.; Ocean Tourism Coalition; Sea Paradise Scuba, Inc.; Sail Maui; RED Hospitality and Leisure Hawaii, LLC; Banyan Tree Divers Maui; Hula Girl Sailing; Sea Maui LLC; Fun Charters, Inc.; Sea Maui Surf; Sailing Shippis, Ltd.; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Trilogy Excursions; Cafe Jai, LLC; Maui Classic Charters; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and Department of Land and Natural Resources.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 649, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14; Ayes with Reservations (Miyake, Alcos, Reyes Oda). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1155 Finance on H.B. No. 800

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Provide for the transfer of certain parcels in the Liliha Civic Center area and Iwilei Fire Station area from various state agencies to the City and County of Honolulu;
- (2) Provide for the transfer of the parcel of land on which Alii Place is sited from the City and County of Honolulu to the State;

- (3) Repeal the sunset provision of Act 45, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, which allows the counties to share in the burden of facilitating the development, construction, financing, refinancing, or other provision of mixed-use developments, including low- and moderate-income housing projects, and issue county bonds for this purpose;
- (4) Require the City and County of Honolulu to accept the properties transferred in satisfaction of all amounts owed by the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation under the Kapolei roadways, drainage, and sewer settlement; and
- (5) Exempt the lands transferred to the Department of Land and Natural Resources by this measure from the definition of public lands for purposes of chapter 171, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services and Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Association of Unit Owners of Senior Residence at Iwilei.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 800, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1156 Finance on H.B. No. 818

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Waiakea Peninsula Community Development District and the Waiakea Peninsula Community Development District Special Fund; and
- (2) Specify the powers and duties of the Hawaii Community Development Authority as it relates to the new development district.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Community Development Authority; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Banyan Drive Hawai'i Redevelopment Agency; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of Budget and Finance.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 818, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1157 Finance on H.B. No. 1278

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the assessment and removal of hazardous trees on state lands.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Big Island Invasive Species Committee. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the appropriations and allocations to unspecified amounts.

Your Committee notes that the Department of Land and Natural Resources would require \$165,000 in each fiscal year to be allocated to the following islands to implement this measure:

- (1) \$15,000 for Kauai;
- (2) \$25,000 for Oahu;
- (3) \$50,000 for Maui; and
- (4) \$75,000 for Hawaii island.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1278, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1278, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1158 Finance on H.B. No. 1358

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for the hiring of necessary staff and the purchase of equipment and professional services on behalf of the Public Land Trust Working Group.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; ACLU of Hawai'i; Hana Health; Prince Kuhio Hawaiian Civic Club; Kahua O Kakou, Hui Humu'ula Kala'i'eha LLC; Moanalua Gardens Foundation, Inc., dba MGF Hawai'i; Ko'olauloa Hawaiian Civic Club; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Including additional preamble language clarifying legislative intent; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1358, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1358, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1159 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 229

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a statewide speed restriction for motor vehicles with three or more axles or motor vehicles weighing more than ten thousand pounds, except under certain circumstances, in a county with a population of five hundred thousand or more; and
- (2) Authorize a county with a population of less than five hundred thousand to adopt an ordinance that establishes a speed restriction for motor vehicles with three or more axles or motor vehicles weighing more than ten thousand pounds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Transportation Association and Aloha Marine Lines.

Your Committee finds that large vehicles, such as those with three or more axles or exceeding ten thousand pounds, require additional safety measures due to their impact on traffic conditions. High speeds make it more difficult for these vehicles to stop or change direction quickly, increasing the potential for serious accidents. This measure promotes safer roadways and aims to minimize collision risks by reducing speed limits for such vehicles.

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. 229, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 2 (Garcia, Shimizu). Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kahaloa).

SCRep. 1160 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 277

The purpose of this measure is to establish a vehicle pursuit policy for law enforcement agencies.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i and Policing Project at NYU School of Law. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Honolulu Police Department; and State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Office of Information Practices; and Law Enforcement Standards Board.

Your Committee finds that although sometimes necessary, law enforcement vehicle pursuits can be dangerous, posing risks of serious injury or death to members of the public and law enforcement officers. Establishing statewide vehicular pursuit policies for state and county law enforcement agencies will ensure that law enforcement officers are only engaging in pursuits when necessary and when the public safety benefits of the pursuits outweigh the risks.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 277, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 277, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 2 (Garcia, Shimizu). Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kahaloa).

SCRep. 1161 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 367

The purpose of this measure is to allow for county permit exemptions for certain kinds of activities, including maintenance activities, installing group U structures, and interior remodeling work, when located outside a special management area.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu and one individual.

Your Committee finds that farmers and ranchers require functional infrastructure, such as greenhouses, storage sheds, livestock shelters, irrigation systems, and fencing, to maintain and expand their operations. However, despite the existing building permit exemption for certain nonresidential agricultural and aquacultural structures, many agricultural producers still face delays, additional county requirements, and inconsistent interpretations of the law when seeking to construct or repair essential structures. This measure streamlines and clarifies the building permit exemptions for agricultural structures and maintenance activities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 367, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 367, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti). Noes, 1 (Perruso). Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kahaloa).

SCRep. 1162 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 420

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify the applicability of the statute of repose for actions arising from construction defects;
- (2) Specify that a plaintiff's failure to plead with particularity the claim of fraudulent concealment, if the plaintiff raises the defense, subjects the plaintiff to liability for the costs incurred by the defendant, contents of a notice of claim of construction defect served on a contractor;
- (3) Clarify the required contents of a contractor's offer to settle or inspect and authorize the contractor to proceed with repairs;
- (4) Limit the amount a claimant can recover if the claimant rejects a contractor's reasonable proposal for inspection or a reasonable offer to remedy; and
- (5) Clarify the consequences of rejecting an offer of settlement.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Gentry Homes, Ltd.; Hawaii Laborers & Employers Cooperation and Education Trust; Hawai'i Regional Council of Carpenters; Honolulu Fire Protection; Bruce Matson Company, Inc.; Hawaii Operating Engineers Industry Stabilization Fund Political Action Committee; Z Contractors, Inc.; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Mutual Housing Association of Hawai'i, Inc.; Paradigm Construction LLC; Newport Pacific Cabinets, Inc.; Tru-Door Hawaii; General Contractors Association of Hawaii; Young Democrats of Hawai'i; Case Lombardi A Law Corporation; Hawaiiana Management Company, Ltd.; Royal Contracting Co. Ltd.; Vinyl Tech and Masonry, Inc.; Hawaii Fence Builders; Holomua Collaborative; Island Flooring; Housing Hawai'i's Future; Commercial Sheetmetal Co. Inc.; Pacific Resource Partnership; D.R. Horton Hawaii;

Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Association of Hawaii; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Hawai'i Construction Alliance; Building Industry Association of Hawaii; International Union of Operating Engineers Local 3 District 17; Hawai'i YIMBY; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from LippSmith LLP; Kasdan Turner Thomson Booth, LLLC; Law Offices of Philip S. Nerney, LLLC; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the original intent of the Contractor Repair Act was to create a cooperative process between builders and homeowners, allowing defects to be identified and repaired without immediately resorting to lawsuits. However, existing law has led to an increase in litigation that discourages builders from undertaking new housing projects. This measure will help protect the State's workers and jobs and protect homeowners by ensuring timely repairs.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language establishing a two-year period of limitation for initiating actions after the cause of action has accrued for damages arising out of any deficiency or neglect in construction, while clarifying the remaining limitation is subject to the existing statute of repose provisions;
- (2) Deleting the issuance of a temporary certificate of occupancy from the points in time that determines whether an improvement is substantially complete;
- (3) Deleting language that awarded defendants costs incurred when a plaintiff invokes the doctrine of fraudulent concealment to toll the limitation and the plaintiff fails to plead with particularity the claim of fraudulent concealment;
- (4) Clarifying the definition of "material violation" by:
 - (A) Including building code violations that may reasonably result in physical harm; and
 - (B) Deleting the proviso that specified when conduct is not a material violation;
- (5) Specifying, for purposes of a notice of claim of construction defect, that the claimant describe the claim with particularity and specificity sufficient to determine the circumstances without need for describing damages;
- (6) Clarifying that the claimant need only provide evidence of the defect, rather than actual evidence, and deleting expert reports from the specified evidence;
- (7) Clarifying that the Contractor Repair Act applies to putative class members;
- (8) Specifying that no person may join a class action under the Contractor Repair Act unless the person has complied with the Contractor Repair Act;
- (9) Clarifying that a claimant shall provide access to inspect the premises within thirty days of a contractor's proposal to inspect;
- (10) Repealing language that awarded costs to an offerer if a judgment or award obtained in a subsequent proceeding was not more favorable than the offer;
- (11) Specifying that any additional damage caused by the alleged construction defect is not limited by an offer of settlement; and
- (12) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 420, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 420, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Perruso, Garcia, Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kahaloa).

SCRep. 1163 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 826

The purpose of this measure is to authorize a county planning commission, until June 30, 2035, by special permit, to permit land uses exclusively providing residential housing for purposes of agricultural workforce housing, long-term rental, or workforce fee simple ownership in an agricultural district, under certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from LIMBY Hawai'i and Sierra Club of Hawai'i. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Land Use Commission; and Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

Your Committee finds that the unprecedented housing crisis requires creative solutions. The existing permitting and entitlement process is burdensome, adding years to development timelines and driving up costs, making it nearly impossible to deliver truly affordable homes. This measure provides the counties authority and flexibility to streamline the entitlement process for workforce and long-term rental housing in designated areas.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 826, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 826, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Garcia). Noes, 3 (Poepoe, Perruso, Shimizu). Excused, 2 (Cochran, Kahaloa).

SCRep. 1164 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 661

The purpose of this measure is to permit, except in certain circumstances, a previously authorized activity challenged as being subject to environmental review to continue while the applicable agency or applicant conducts an environmental assessment, prepares an environmental impact statement, or determines whether the activity is exempt.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Calypso Charters; Activities and Attractions Association of Hawaii; The Westin Maui Resort & Spa; Maui Hotel & Lodging Association; Sail Maui; Teralani Sailing Adventures; Sheraton Maui Resort & Spa; Kā'anapali Beach Resort Association; Quicksilver Charters, LLC; Three's Bar & Grill; Holo Holo Charters, Inc.; OUTRIGGER Kā'anapali Beach Resort; Sea Sports Distributors; Island Dream Productions; OUTRIGGER Hospitality Group; Kā'anapali Kai Charters; The Ritz-Carlton Maui, Kapalua; Hawaii Longline Association; Sailing Maui Inc.; Hana Hou Hospitality Restaurants; Sailing Shipp's Ltd; Pacific Jet Sports; Hi-Tech Surf Sports; Cafe Jai, LLC; 3two3 Promotions; Island Scuba Inc.; Schooner Creek Boat Works; Aqualani, Trilogy Excursions; Hawaii Goes Fishing; Hawaii Seafood Council; Exclusive Limo Maui; Captain Andy's Sailing Inc; Ocean Tourism Coalition; Fair Wind Cruises; Kona Sunrise Charters; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Native Hawaiian Gathering Rights Association; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Nā Pāpa'i Wāwae 'Ula'ula; Free Access Coalition; Green Party of Hawai'i; Country Talk Story; Kihei Community Association; Big Island Reef Keepers Hui; Moana Ohana; 'Ilio'ulaokalani Coalition; Sierra Club, Maui Group; Pō'ai Wai Ola; Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Hui; Nā Kia'i Kai; Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club; Conservation Council for Hawai'i; He'eia National Estuarine Research Reserve; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation; For the Fishes; Kūmano I Ke Ala; Earthjustice; The Moanalua Gardens Foundation; Center for Biological Diversity; Hawaii Island Aha Moku; Friends of Hanauma Bay; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the environmental review process under chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, was designed to evaluate the potential environmental impact of certain actions. Your Committee further finds that recent court decisions have broadened the definition of an environmental "action", extending the definition to long-standing, historically permitted activities in certain state-managed areas. Your Committee recognizes that the expansion of this definition negatively impacts law-abiding operations, such as commercial boating and recreational activities that are already regulated under strict administrative rules. This measure addresses this issue by permitting, except in certain circumstances, a previously authorized activity challenged as being subject to environmental review to continue while the applicable agency or applicant conducts an environmental assessment, prepares an environmental impact statement, or determines whether the activity is exempt.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Narrowing which activities are authorized to continue while the agency or applicant conducts an environmental assessment, prepares an environmental impact statement, or determines whether the activity is exempt; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 661, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 661, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Kahaloa, Shimizu). Noes, 2 (Poepoe, Perruso). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1165 Finance on H.B. No. 454

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish state goals for economic growth fueled by innovation and technology;
- (2) Appropriate funds to the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation to support programs that address those goals; and
- (3) Require the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation to submit annual reports over three years to the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Technology Development Corporation; Blue Startups; Pacific Biodiesel Technologies; HNu Photonics; Hawaii Biotech, Inc.; Nuveia LLC; Lanikai Brewing Company, LLC; Kauai Hemp Company; HI-Spectral, LLC; Holomua Collaborative; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Fish Company; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Nalu Scientific, LLC; Hawai'i Pacific Advisory Group; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Maui Economic Development Board; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Pacific Allied Products Ltd; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from ThriveHI.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 454, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 454, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1166 Finance on H.B. No. 476

The purpose of this measure is to increase the capital gains tax rate for individuals, estates, and trusts to nine percent and the alternative capital gains tax rate for corporations to five percent.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Hawaiian Islands Republican Women; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the capital gains tax rate for individuals, estates, and trusts and alternative capital gains tax rate for corporations to unspecified percentages.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 476, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 476, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13; Ayes with Reservations (Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Lamosao, Miyake). Noes, 2 (Alcos, Reyes Oda). Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1167 Finance on H.B. No. 1308

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow for the regulation of sports wagering by the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs;
- (2) Establish licensing requirements for sports wagering operators and sports wagering suppliers; and
- (3) Specify that legal sports wagering and fantasy sports contests shall not be considered contests of chance or gambling.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from DraftKings Inc.; BetMGM; Sports Betting Alliance; Iron Workers Stabilization Fund; and six individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of the Attorney General; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; Boyd Gaming; Hawaii Family Forum; Stop Predatory Gambling; Litt Law, LLC; HI Good Neighbor; Hawaiian Islands Republican Women; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and Department of Taxation.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the sports wagering operator license fee to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the sports wagering supplier license fee to an unspecified amount;
- (3) Changing the general excise tax rate on licensed sports wagering to an unspecified percentage; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1308, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1308, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12; Ayes with Reservations (Hussey, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Kusch, Lamosao, Miyake, Templo). Noes, 3 (Grandinetti, Alcos, Reyes Oda). Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1168 Finance on H.B. No. 1194

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Make laws regulating midwives and the practice of midwifery permanent;
- (2) Clarify the scope of practice of midwifery;
- (3) Establish licensure requirements for certified midwives and certified professional midwives, including continuing education requirements;
- (4) Grant global signature authority to midwives;
- (5) Grant prescriptive authority to licensed midwives practicing as certified midwives and amend the list of approved legend drugs that may be administered by licensed midwives;
- (6) Establish peer review and data submission requirements for midwives;
- (7) Affirm that the practice of midwifery does not include traditional native Hawaiian healers performing traditional Hawaiian healing practices;
- (8) Clarify exemptions from licensure and grounds for refusal to grant, renew, reinstate, or restore licenses and for the revocation, suspension, denial, or condition of licenses; and
- (9) Clarify medical record availability and retention requirements for the purposes of medical torts.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Banyan Birth LLC; Hawaii Section of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists; Hawaii Medical Association; Midwives Alliance of Hawai'i; American Academy of Pediatrics, Hawaii Chapter; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Hawai'i Home Birth Task Force; Hawai'i Home Birth Collective; Aoki Birthing Care; Maui Midwifery; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hui Aloha 'Āina na Wahine o Wai'ale'ale Women's Patriotic League; Laulima Midwifery; Pacific Birth Collective Board of Directors; Prana Midwifery, LLC; Hawai'i Midwifery Council; Gentle Beginnings Midwifery; Hale Kealaula, LLC; Chamber of Sustainable Commerce; Nightbloom Birth; Libertarian Party of Hawaii; Hana Business Council; American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i; Ho'opae Pono Peace Project; More Than Maternity LLC; Mālama Nā Pua o Haumea; Over the Rainbow, LLC; Maui Medical Healers Hui; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Hawai'i State Center for Nursing; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; American Society of Radiologic Technologists; Mahina Midwives; Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club; Committee of Midwife Advocates for the Certified Midwife of the American College of Nurse-Midwives; Papa Ola Lokahi; Hawai'i Affiliate of the American College of Nurse-Midwives Board of Directors; North American Registry of Midwives; American College of Nurse-Midwives; and Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation.

Your Committee finds that the regulation of midwifery is necessary to protect public health and safety. Three separate reports by the Office of the Auditor (Nos. 99-14, 17-1, and 25-03) determined that the nature of the maternity and prenatal services provided by a midwife may endanger the health and safety of pregnant people and newborns under the midwife's care, therefore, the profession of midwifery should be subject to regulation. Your Committee considered several hours of public testimony about the importance of high-quality, competent care for both a mother and baby, and the risk of long-term negative health impacts if pregnancy-related complications go unrecognized and untreated.

At the same time, your Committee understands the importance of protecting Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices as recognized under article XII, section 7, of the Hawaii State Constitution. Therefore, your Committee finds that amendments to this measure are necessary to be clear that Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices do not fall under the "practice of midwifery" and any person who engages in Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices that are protected under the Hawaii State Constitution is exempt from chapter 457J, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices protected under the Hawaii State Constitution are exempt from the regulatory provisions of this measure and deleting references to kupuna councils convened by Papa Ola Lokahi;
- (2) Clarifying that the scope of practice of midwifery excludes performing, supervising, and interpreting procedures using ionizing radiation;
- (3) Removing workers' compensation verification documents, Department of Education verification and evaluation forms, and physical examination forms from the global signature authority granted to midwives;
- (4) Clarifying the peer review requirements for clinical cases subject to peer review when the intended place of birth is not a hospital or an accredited birth facility;

- (5) Clarifying data submission requirements for license renewal, including that the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs may require data submission to an organization approved by the Department as a condition of license renewal, but that the requirement shall not apply to midwives working in a hospital or an accredited birth facility;
- (6) Clarifying the definitions of "certified midwife", "certified professional midwife", and "telehealth";
- (7) Amending the definition of "practice of midwifery" to remove primary care for individuals from adolescence through adulthood;
- (8) Clarifying that the licensure exemption for an individual licensed and performing work within the person's scope of practice that overlaps with the practice of midwifery does not authorize the individual to use the title of "midwife" or "licensed midwife";
- (9) Clarifying that the requirements for cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and neonatal resuscitation program (NRP) certification as a condition of initial licensure and renewal shall be current at the time of licensure and renewal and remain current throughout the license period;
- (10) Specifying that failure to maintain current and valid CPR and NRP certifications are grounds for refusal to grant, renew, reinstate, or restore a license and for revocation, suspension, denial, or condition of a license;
- (11) Providing that grounds for disciplinary action against a midwife do not include the delegation of administrative and technical clinical tasks to a person who is assisting the midwife;
- (12) Changing the effective date to June 29, 2025; and
- (13) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1194, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1194, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12; Ayes with Reservations (Grandinetti). Noes, 3 (Hussey, Alcos, Reyes Oda). Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1169 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.B. No. 1118

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the issuance of new non-medical immunization exemptions for school-aged children.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Pride at Work - Hawai'i; Hawai'i Pacific Health; American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists – Hawai'i Section; American Academy of Pediatrics, Hawai'i Chapter; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Free Citizens of Maunaloa; Hawaiian Islands Republican Women; Project Nehemiah Hawaii; Outlawz Athletics; Aloha 1st Athletics; Aloha Freedom Coalition; Nana's Early Childcare; Pono Records; Retore Aloha; Hawai'i Christian Coalition; Christian Science Committee on Publication for Hawaii; Faith in Action Church of God; King's Chapel; Beauty Way of the Four Directions Native American Church of Kaua'i; Hawaii for Informed Consent; Libertarian Party of Hawaii; Pure Wellness LLC; Clementine's Closet LLC; KELII Foundation; KUMU Foundation; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education and Church of Satanism, Coeur d'Alene Chapter.

Your Committee finds that school immunization requirements are a critical tool for preventing the spread of infectious diseases and maintaining public health. Studies confirm that high vaccination rates create herd immunity, which is essential for protecting medically fragile children who cannot be immunized due to health conditions. In recent years, Hawaii has seen a significant rise in non-medical immunization exemptions, more than doubling since the 2015–2016 school year. This measure aims to enhance the safety of school-aged children by reducing non-medical exemptions while continuing to safeguard those with valid medical exemptions.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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. 1118, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1118, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5; Ayes with Reservations (Poepoe, Belatti). Noes, 3 (Perruso, Garcia, Shimizu). Excused, 3 (Cochran, Kahaloa, Todd).

SCRep. 1170 Finance on H.B. No. 410

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the operating budget for the 2025-2027 fiscal biennium for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Pua'ainahau Foundation; Kahuku Medical Center; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 410, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1171 Finance on H.B. No. 400

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the operating and capital improvement costs of the Judiciary Branch for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

As introduced, this measure appropriates:

Operating

	<u>FY 2025-2026</u>	<u>FY 2026-2027</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	203,319,009	203,391,600
ALL MEANS OF FINANCE	216,164,762	216,237,353

Capital Improvements

	<u>FY 2025-2026</u>	<u>FY 2026-2027</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	0	0

GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS	9,900,000	0
ALL MEANS OF FINANCE	9,900,000	0

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Department of Education; The Legal Clinic; Volunteer Legal Services Hawai'i; Hawaii State Bar Association; and Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i. Your Committee received comments on this measure from SanHi Government Strategies.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying capital improvement projects amounts and cost elements;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As amended, this measure appropriates:

Operating

	<u>FY 2025-2026</u>	<u>FY 2026-2027</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	203,319,009	203,391,600
ALL MEANS OF FINANCE	216,164,762	216,237,353

Capital Improvements

	<u>FY 2025-2026</u>	<u>FY 2026-2027</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	0	0
GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS	11,900,000	0
ALL MEANS OF FINANCE	11,900,000	0

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 400, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 400, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1172 Finance on H.B. No. 300

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the operating and capital improvement costs of the Executive Branch for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

As introduced, the administration's operating budget totaled:

Operating

	<u>FY 2025-2026</u>	<u>FY 2026-2027</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	10,471,559,898	10,541,723,984
ALL MEANS OF FINANCE	20,546,640,464	20,459,458,677

Capital Improvements

	<u>FY 2025-2026</u>	<u>FY 2026-2027</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	0	0
GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS	1,327,344,000	601,195,000
ALL MEANS OF FINANCE	3,433,004,000	2,470,581,000

On February 18, 2025, the Governor notified the Legislature of requested adjustments to the executive budget. The administration's revised operating budget totaled:

Operating

	<u>FY 2025-2026</u>	<u>FY 2026-2027</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	10,519,904,900	10,572,868,063
ALL MEANS OF FINANCE	20,614,223,896	20,499,921,519

Capital Improvement

	<u>FY 2025-2026</u>	<u>FY 2026-2027</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	0	0
GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS	1,373,444,000	601,195,000
ALL MEANS OF FINANCE	3,479,104,000	2,470,581,000

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; Department of Budget and Finance; Department of the Attorney General; Department of Agriculture; University of Hawai'i System; Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Department of Human Resources Development; Department of Accounting and General Services; Department of Law Enforcement; Department of Taxation; Department of Health; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Human Services; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Department of Defense; Hawai'i State Public Library System; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Executive Office on Early Learning; Hawaii State Energy Office; Hawai'i Community Development Authority; Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Stadium Authority; Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority; Executive Office on Aging; Hawai'i Technology Development Corporation; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women; School Facilities Authority; Public Utilities Commission; John A. Burns School of Medicine University of Hawai'i at Mānoa; Board of Education; Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission; Department of Water Supply, County of Hawai'i; Honolulu Board of Water Supply; Department of Water, County of Kaua'i; Department of Water Supply, County of Maui; ABC Group; Responsive Caregivers of Hawaii; Behavior Analysis No Ka Oi, Inc.; Hawai'i Waiver Providers Association; Full Life; Hawai'i Oral Health Coalition; Arc of Kona; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Hawai'i Island Community Health Center; Holomua Collaborative; Hawai'i Association for Behavior Analysis; The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i and Palmyra; BAYADA Behavioral Health; Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative; Hawaii Dental Service; Special Education Advisory Council; Parents and Children Together; Hawaii Laborers & Employers Cooperation and Education Trust Fund; Care for 'Aina Now Coalition; Planned Parenthood Alliance Advocates – Hawai'i; Hawai'i True Cost Coalition; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Hunt Development Group, LLC; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaiian Electric; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Maui Health System; HPM Building Supply; Mana Up; Akaka Foundation; Autism Behavior Consulting Group; Ho'ouma Autism Services LLC; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Drug Policy Forum of Hawai'i; Reimagining Public Safety in Hawai'i Coalition; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of the Governor; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; Department of Education; Department of Transportation, Department of Land and Natural Resources; Early Learning Board; Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission; Land Use Commission; Pakoalea Support Services; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; Hawai'i Friends of Restorative Justice; Kualoa Ranch; Essential Access Health; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Commit to Keiki; Hep Free Hawaii; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; ACLU of Hawai'i; and four individuals.

Your Committee on Finance finds that the indicators for the economic outlook of the State show relatively moderate growth. However, challenges remain as the State prepares to deal with potential impacts from changing federal policy.

On January 6, 2025, State Economist, Dr. Eugene Tian, briefed your Committee that while the state economy is buoyed by construction, real estate, and a stable labor market, it is still facing challenges, including:

- (1) Higher than national average inflation;
- (2) A shrinking labor force; and
- (3) Slow visitor industry recovery.

On January 25, 2025, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a budget resolution that proposed a potential \$2 trillion cut in federal spending impacting safety net programs such as Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). Should these reductions come to fruition, the State will need flexibility in the budget to respond.

On February 28, 2025, the University of Hawaii Economic Research Organization (UHORO) warned that "Hawaii's economic growth is threatened by federal disruptions. While tax cuts may provide some stimulus this year, the Administration's actions—including tariffs, mass deportations, and spending cuts—will impose significant drag thereafter. The clearest near-term risk is federal layoffs, which will result in a loss of more than 2,000 local jobs, fully offsetting growth in construction and the lift from local tax cuts. Together with other federal policies, this places the Hawaii economy at risk of recession over the next few years."

In light of these concerns, your Committee focused on core and safety net programs and prepared for flexibility within the budget by providing:

- (1) \$200,000,000 in FY26 for deposit into the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund;
- (2) \$465,084 and five positions in FY27 for Office of Federal Awards Management;
- (3) \$20,990,000 in FY26 and FY27 for summer school;
- (4) \$10,000,000 in FY26 and FY27 for skilled nursing services;
- (5) \$80,545,000 in FY26 and \$69,597,400 in FY27 for Hawaii Health Systems Corporations Regions and implementation of Epic Systems for East Hawaii;
- (6) \$12,000,000 in FY26 and \$6,000,000 in FY27 for Maui Health System;
- (7) \$1,838,210 in FY26 and \$3,305,926 in FY27 and twenty-one positions for certified community behavioral health clinic certification for Oahu, Maui, Hawaii, and Kauai Community Mental Health Centers;
- (8) \$13,000,000 in FY26 and FY27 for locum tenens contracts for Hawaii State Hospital;
- (9) \$1,700,000 in FY26 and FY27 for contracted services for family planning and preventative health services;
- (10) \$250,000 in FY26 and FY27 for the State Rent Supplement Program;
- (11) \$250,000 in FY26 and FY27 for the federal Section 8 Program;
- (12) \$3,750,000 in FY26 and FY27 for the Housing First Program;
- (13) \$3,750,000 in FY26 and FY27 for the Rapid Re-Housing Program;
- (14) \$6,500,000 in FY26 and FY27 for Applied Behavioral Analysis to increase provider payment rates;
- (15) \$29,455,181 in FY26 and FY27 to sustain increased reimbursement rates for most medical professional services; and
- (16) \$605,000 in FY26 and FY27 for Family Resource Centers.

Upon consideration, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Appropriating the following for operating and capital improvement expenses:

Operating

	<u>FY 2025-2026</u>	<u>FY 2026-2027</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	10,668,359,711	10,519,050,655
ALL MEANS OF FINANCE	20,484,862,473	20,216,604,470

Capital Improvements

	<u>FY 2025-2026</u>	<u>FY 2026-2027</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	0	0
GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS	1,453,490,000	446,559,000
ALL MEANS OF FINANCE	3,628,285,000	2,369,450,000

- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 300, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 300, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1173 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 693

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the continued implementation of the Food Hub Pilot Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawaii; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Kanalani Ohana Farm; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Hawai'i Food Hub Hui; Adaptations Food Hub Big Island; Ho'ōla Farms/Hilo Food Hub; Malama Kaua'i; Hawai'i Ulu Cooperative; Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii; Adaptations Farm and Food Hub; Feed Hawaii/Kohala Food Hub; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Eden Farms Hawaii, Inc.

Your Committee finds that strengthening the State's food security requires increasing local food production and improving consumer access to locally grown food. Food hubs serve as a critical link in this effort by facilitating the aggregation, storage, processing, and distribution of local agricultural products. Additionally, food hubs play an essential role in enhancing food access for underserved communities. This measure continues funding for the Food Hub Pilot Program, ensuring that food hubs can strengthen local food supply chains, support Hawaii's farmers, and reduce the State's dependence on imported food.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,500,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 693, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 693, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kusch, Ward).

SCRep. 1174 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 1023

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish and appropriate funds into and out of a Spay and Neuter Special Fund to reduce pet overpopulation and the reproduction of free-roaming cats; and
- (2) Establish various revenue and fundraising sources for the Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaiian Humane Society; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Neighborhood Cats; Animal Interfaith Alliance in Britain; Maui Humane Society Board of Directors; Humane World For Animals; Fur-Angel Foundation; Animal Rights Hawai'i; Hui Pono Holoholona; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the American Bird Conservancy; Hawai'i Audubon Society; Hui Hoomalu i ka Aina; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Taxation; Department of the Attorney General; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; Big Island Invasive Species Committee; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that spaying and neutering are effective strategies for managing pet populations and reducing the number of free-roaming cats, yet the State lacks dedicated funding for these efforts. This measure establishes a Spay and Neuter Special Fund, supported by various revenue sources, to address pet overpopulation and promote humane population control.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the appropriated funds to reduce pet overpopulation and the reproduction of free-roaming cats be allocated directly to the counties as a grant-in-aid, rather than expended by the Department of Budget and Finance;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1023, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1023, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Culture & Arts.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kusch, Ward).

SCRep. 1175 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 1186

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Statewide Interagency Food Systems Coordination Team and the Interagency Food Systems Working Group within the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; City and County of Honolulu Office of Climate Change, Sustainability, and Resiliency; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Namnama Farms; Kanalani Ohana Farm; Hawaii Food+ Policy; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Hawaii Farmers Union - Haleakala Chapter; Oahu Resource Conservation & Development Council; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency and Eden Farms Hawaii, Inc.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii is committed to sustainable economic growth, strengthening local food production, improving food access, addressing climate change, and reducing food insecurity. Your Committee further finds that achieving a resilient and equitable food system requires collaboration among state agencies, farmers, retailers, non-profits, and communities to enhance efficiency, sustainability, and disaster response. This measure establishes the

Statewide Interagency Food Systems Coordination Team and the Interagency Food Systems Working Group within the Agribusiness Development Corporation to strengthen strategic planning and cross-sector collaboration.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation for an unspecified amount for a temporary full-time equivalent position for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the requests of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism and Agribusiness Development Corporation for one full-time equivalent position each to effectuate the purposes of this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1186, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1186, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kusch, Ward).

SCRep. 1176 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 448

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Agribusiness Development Corporation to acquire a conservation easement in Central Oahu.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and Hawai'i Farmers Union.

Your Committee finds that conservation easements serve as a tool to preserve agricultural lands, supporting the State's goal of increasing local food production. Despite ambitious mandates, such as requiring thirty percent of public school food to be locally sourced by 2030 and fifty percent of state department produce purchases to be local by 2050, stronger action is needed to protect agricultural lands for future food production. This measure appropriates funds to the Agribusiness Development Corporation to acquire a conservation easement on agricultural lands in Central Oahu, ensuring long-term agricultural viability.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the appropriation is for the Agribusiness Development Corporation to acquire a conservation easement on agricultural lands in Central Oahu;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 448, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 448, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kusch, Ward).

SCRep. 1177 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 552

The purpose of this measure is to require and appropriate funds for the Department of Agriculture to establish a Healthy Soils Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Citizens' Climate Lobby Hawai'i; 350Hawaii.org; Carbon Cashback Hawaii; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Kānalani Ohana Farm; Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Haleakala Chapter of the Hawaii Farmers Union; Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Eden Farms Hawaii, Inc.; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that maintaining healthy soils is essential for Hawaii's agricultural sustainability and resilience. Investing in soil health supports farm productivity, strengthens the local economy, and enhances food security. This measure creates a Healthy Soils Program within the Department of Agriculture to evaluate and improve soil conditions while offering farmers education and technical support.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting a preamble;
- (2) Clarifying the scope and duties of the Healthy Soils Program to include:
 - (A) The integration and management of the Compost Reimbursement Program and Cover Crop Reimbursement Pilot Program;
 - (B) Education and technical assistance to support the adoption of healthy soil practices;
 - (C) The administration of financial incentives and awards to encourage the implementation of regenerative agricultural practices;
 - (D) Updated soil data and mapping initiatives, including a review process;
 - (E) Agencies that the Department of Agriculture may collaborate with for the purposes of the Program; and
 - (F) Certain reporting requirements;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of more than the original appropriation request of \$500,000 due to the federal administration's recent deprioritization of climate smart practices, which target improved soil health.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 552, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 552, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kusch, Ward).

SCRep. 1178 Labor on S.B. No. 717

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal statutory prohibition on certain employees that are exempt from civil service law from grieving a suspension or discharge; and
- (2) Add language to allow any employee who is a member of an appropriate bargaining unit to grieve a suspension or discharge.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Resources of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that there has been a substantial increase in exempt employees in the State, which are classified as "at will" employees under existing law. Furthermore, exempt employees do not have the right to file a grievance for a suspension or discharge under existing law. Your Committee finds it important that the State demonstrate fair labor practices and allow employees who are exempt from civil service to grieve suspensions or discharges.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 717, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 717, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 1179 Labor on S.B. No. 183

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow impasses and disputes relating to employer contributions to the Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund to be resolved by arbitration; and
- (2) Repeal the prohibition against strikes by members of bargaining units on the issue of employer contributions to the Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawaii Professional Assembly; United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development.

Your Committee finds that existing law does not provide a means for resolving disputes regarding employer monthly contributions for medical premiums toward Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund plans. This implies that this negotiable item is effectively one-sided, and employer controlled. This measure ensures that both parties can negotiate in good faith, knowing that there is a fair process in place to resolve any disagreements, which supports workers' rights and promotes collaboration between employees and employers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 183, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 183, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 1180 Labor on S.B. No. 1359

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Effective January 1, 2026, increase the employer base composite monthly contribution to the Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund by 5.2 percent of the 2025 employer base composite monthly contribution; and
- (2) Effective January 1, 2027, require the calculation of the employer base composite monthly contribution to be based on the change in Medicare Part B premiums from 2025-2026 and at two-year increments thereafter.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund Board of Trustees.

Your Committee finds that the employer's monthly base composite contribution to the Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund, as it relates to Medicare Part B premiums, are published shortly after open enrollment for retired members of the Employees' Retirement System ends, resulting in retirees committing to healthcare plans for the upcoming year without knowing what the employer's contributions will be. Your Committee believes that this measure will give retirees adequate time to make informed decisions regarding their healthcare benefits.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1359, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1359, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 1181 Labor on S.B. No. 855

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify the definition of "covered employer" under the Hawaii Retirement Savings Act;
- (2) Require automatic enrollment of covered employees into the Hawaii Retirement Savings Program unless the employee opts out;
- (3) Repeal the limit on the total fees and expenses that can be spent for the Program each year; and
- (4) Appropriate funds for the development and operation of the Hawaii Retirement Savings Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging; Hawai'i Retirement Savings Board; Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs; Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce; AARP Hawai'i; Hawaii Primary Care Association; Goya's Garage; Alliance of Residential Care Administrators; Hawai'i Community Lending; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Retail Merchants of Hawaii and Maui Chamber of Commerce. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the Hawaii Retirement Savings Program provides long-term financial security and protection against inflation to qualified private-sector employees for retirement through automatic payroll deductions, who would otherwise have to independently save money for retirement. Your Committee notes that employers with retirement savings programs that have auto-enrollment policies have higher overall contribution rates by their employees than employers with only voluntary enrollment. This measure encourages employees to engage with their retirement plans and make proactive and informed decisions about their financial future.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$720,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$445,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 855, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 855, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5; Ayes with Reservations (Kong). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 1182 Labor on S.B. No. 828

The purpose of this measure is to expand workers' compensation coverage to include firefighters who develop cancer or diseases in the discharge of their firefighting duties.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Hawai'i State Fire Council; Hawaii Fire Department; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that firefighters have a nine percent greater chance of being diagnosed with cancer and a fourteen percent greater chance of dying from cancer than the general United States population. Your Committee also finds that firefighters are constantly inhaling and ingesting carcinogens from fire combustion which put them at high risk for developing diseases later in life. Your Committee believes that this measure ensures support for firefighters by providing workers' compensation benefits to those who develop cancer or diseases resulting from firefighting duties.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 828, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 828, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 1183 Labor on S.B. No. 1360

The purpose of this measure is to amend the Employees' Retirement System's requirements for beginning dates and automatic disbursements to reflect the most recent requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, to return the accumulated contributions of former non-vested class A or B members.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees.

Your Committee finds that the Employees' Retirement System undergoes burdensome and costly steps to maintain its beneficial federal tax status while distributing the required minimum distributions to its members. Your Committee also finds that the automatic distribution requirement for non-vested hybrid members necessitates third-party retirement accounts which must be separately defined as contributions plans, to avoid tax implications on contributions. The amendments pursuant to this measure streamline the distribution process while ensuring the Employees' Retirement System retains its federal tax status.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1360, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1360, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 1184 Labor on S.B. No. 1361

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Extend the deadline for payment to the Employees' Retirement System for departments or agencies of the State or counties that fail to comply with reporting requirements by one year after the review period; and
- (2) Change the timeframe for which the Employees' Retirement System must report regarding any department or agency's failure to submit required information to the Employees' Retirement System from the current fiscal year to the previous fiscal year.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Board of Trustees of the Employees' Retirement System.

Your Committee finds it important to provide the Employees' Retirement System more time to effectively collect, review, and analyze the data it receives and for employers to prepare pre-payment to the Employees' Retirement System, to ensure that requirements are adequately met. Your Committee believes this measure can alleviate undue burdens on the overall process of employer reporting, while ensuring that requirements and deadlines are appropriately met.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1361, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1361, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 1185 Labor on S.B. No. 1491

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Include the Department of Taxation and Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism in the list of state agencies sharing data through the statewide longitudinal data system; and
- (2) Authorize the Department of Taxation to share certain wage data with the University of Hawaii and other state agencies.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Taxation; University of Hawai'i System; and Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for Education. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that data currently collected by state educational systems and workforce training agencies does not include information from certain segments of the State's workforce, including those who are self-employed. This leaves the current workforce data incomplete. Your Committee further finds that gathering data from tax filings of those who are self-employed, as provided by the Department of Taxation, will provide a more accurate analysis of Hawaii's workforce. This measure will help formulate better policy while ensuring safeguards for privacy and confidentiality.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the data shared by the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, to be aggregated or anonymized; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1491, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1491, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 1186 Tourism on S.B. No. 1571

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Exempt all positions filled by the Hawaii Tourism Authority within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism from the State's civil service law;
- (2) Amend the definition of "convention center facility" to clarify that its facilities must reflect a Hawaii sense of place; and
- (3) Amend the eligibility requirements for service on the Hawaii Tourism Authority's Board of Directors by repealing the two-year waiting period for former Hawaii Visitors and Convention Bureau board members.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

Your Committee finds that exempting positions within the Hawaii Tourism Authority from the State's civil service law will provide the Authority with greater flexibility to recruit and hire the skilled professionals it needs to carry out its responsibilities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Designating the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority as an advisory board;
- (2) Inserting language to specify that the powers described in section 201B-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, are granted to the Hawaii Tourism Authority except as otherwise provided by law, rather than as otherwise limited by chapter 201B, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Tourism that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1571, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1571, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Labor.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1187 Tourism on S.B. No. 1536

The purpose of this measure is to repeal the exemption of the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority from the State's Employees' Retirement System.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

Your Committee finds that removing this exemption ensures that as a state employee, the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority, has a right to contribute to and benefit from the Employees' Retirement System.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Tourism that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1536, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1536, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Labor.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1188 Education on S.B. No. 422

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Department of Education to establish a program to award high school diplomas to a qualified person who did not receive a high school diploma as a result of compulsory or voluntary induction into active service in the armed services of the United States or whose high school education was interrupted due to wartime practices during World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Hawaii Military Affairs Council; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that compulsory induction into active service in the Armed Services of the United States and other wartime practices resulted in individuals deferring their educational goals. Your Committee further finds that the establishment of a program to award high school diplomas to these individuals provides them with recognition and gratitude from the State for their wartime sacrifices to their country.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 422, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 422, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Public Safety.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

SCRep. 1189 Education on S.B. No. 532

The purpose of this measure is to authorize public school employees and agents who have completed appropriate training to administer medication for students.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Department of Health; University of Hawai'i at Mānoa School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene; University of Hawai'i at Mānoa John A. Burns School of Medicine; Hawai'i – American Nurses Association; Special Education Advisory Council; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Patriot Republicans and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that school health assistants may administer medications to students in state public schools. However, due to increasing vacancies for school health assistants, many schools have difficulty in meeting the needs of students who are prescribed medications or may benefit from receiving medications in emergency situations while on campus. Your Committee believes that authorizing school staff to assist with the administration of medication to students can be an effective substitute for school health assistants after completing training and general instruction in certain tasks.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 532, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 532, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Health.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Kila). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

SCRep. 1190 Education on S.B. No. 659

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Exempt purchases of fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products less than \$250,000 from using an electronic system, subject to certain requirements;
- (2) Require the Department of Education to establish guidelines for determining a county-level geographic preference for locally sourced products when procuring products; and
- (3) Exempt the Department of Education from the requirement that certain agricultural products be subject to the Hawaii Public Procurement Code.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Department of Agriculture; City and County of Honolulu Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Food+ Policy Internship 2025; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the State Procurement Office.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Education is mandated to provide at least thirty percent locally sourced foods to the State's public schools by 2030. Your Committee further finds that adjusting the Department of Education's small purchase procurement capacity will provide an additional tool to procure fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products from local farmers and ranchers and assist the Department in fulfilling its mandate to provide locally sourced foods for the State's public schools.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the procurement threshold amounts to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider:

- (1) Less than \$250,000 as the threshold for the Department of Education to procure fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products without using an electronic system;
- (2) Requiring no less than three written quotes for procurements for \$25,000 to less than \$250,000;
- (3) Requiring no less than two written quotes for procurements of \$25,000 to less than \$250,000 for fresh local agricultural products and local value-added processed, agricultural, or food products to supply schools in rural communities; and
- (4) Requiring all awards exceeding \$2,500 to be posted electronically on the Hawaii Awards and Notice Data System or successor system, or a similar Department of Education procurement platform.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 659, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 659, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

SCRep. 1191 Education on S.B. No. 747

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an Audit Office within the Board of Education to audit operations, expenditures, and programs of the Department of Education;
- (2) Exempt positions in the Audit Office from civil service law; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for:
 - (A) The establishment and operation of the Audit Office; and
 - (B) The establishment of six full-time equivalent positions within the Audit Office.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Board of Education.

Your Committee finds that the establishment of an Audit Office will provide additional oversight over the Board of Education and Department of Education and increase transparency and accountability in the State's public education system.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 747, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 747, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Labor.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

SCRep. 1192 Education on S.B. No. 423

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Add the Director of the Head Start State Collaboration Office as an ex officio, non-voting member of the Early Learning Board;
- (2) Require the Early Learning Board to invite the President of the Head Start Association of Hawaii, or the President's designee, to serve as an ex officio, non-voting member of the Board; and
- (3) Require the Early Learning Board to invite a representative of local providers of early childhood education and development services to serve as an ex officio, non-voting member if no voting member fulfills that role.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Early Learning Board and Executive Office on Early Learning Center.

Your Committee finds that the federal Head Start Act directs the governor of an applicable state to designate or establish a council to serve as the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care pursuant to section 642B of the Head Start Act. Your Committee further finds that the State Advisory Council in Hawaii is the Early Learning Board. This measure will align state law with the federal Head Start Act by adding the Head Start State Collaboration Office Director as an ex officio member of the Early Learning Board and inviting the President of the Head Start Association of Hawaii, or the President's designee, to join the Board in a non-voting capacity.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 423, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 423, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

SCRep. 1193 Education on S.B. No. 789

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Education to charge no less than one-quarter of the cost of preparing a school meal for each school meal, to be repealed if the Department of Education fails to meet the statutorily established Local Farm to School Meal goal.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Healthy Eating, Active Living Coalition; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Hawai'i Foodbank; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that access to nutritious meals is necessary for students' academic success and overall well-being. However, the rising cost of school meals places an undue burden on families, leading to decreasing student participation in school meal programs. This measure will reduce the required meal cost offset collection and increase affordability for school meals in Department of Education schools.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting a preamble;
- (2) Specifying that the price for school meals shall be set by the Department of Education to ensure that monies received from the sale of the meals shall be no more than one-quarter of the cost of preparing meals;
- (3) Deleting language which would have repealed the measure if the Department of Education fails to meet the statutorily established Local Farm to School Meal goal;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 789, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 789, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

SCRep. 1194 Culture & Arts on S.B. No. 1051

The purpose of this measure is to designate the month of September as Hawaiian History Month.

Your Committee has received testimony in support of this measure from the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs and one individual.

Your Committee finds that in the month of September, Queen Liliuokalani's birth, life, and legacy is remembered and celebrated throughout the Hawaiian community, including at churches, Hawaiian organizations, and the Kamehameha Schools. Your Committee believes that designating the Queen's birth month of September as Hawaiian History Month would honor and celebrate her life and legacy, recognize the contributions of the Native Hawaiian community, and provide community building, educational, and economical opportunities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1051, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1051, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Sayama, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 1195 Culture & Arts on S.B. No. 614

The purpose of this measure is to establish La Kuokoa, Hawaiian Independence Day, on November 28th of each year as a state holiday.

Your Committee has received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Kumukahi Health + Wellness; Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs; Moanalua Gardens Foundation; Ohana Unity Party; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Collective Bargaining; Department of Budget and Finance; and Department of Human Resources of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that "La Kuokoa", Hawaiian Independence Day, was a national holiday celebrated annually on November 28 to commemorate the signing of the Anglo-Franco Proclamation of 1843, which represented the official diplomatic recognition of the independence and sovereignty of the Hawaiian Kingdom by Great Britain and France. Hawaiian Independence Day holds cultural and historical significance and represents an affirmation of identity and joyful pride for the people of Hawaii. This measure seeks to designate a state holiday in commemoration of this former national holiday, which is still observed and celebrated by many Native Hawaiians and residents of the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 614, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 614, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Sayama, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 1196 Transportation on S.B. No. 1402

The purpose of this measure is to clarify and expand the requirements for the securing of mooring lines in state commercial harbors.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the General Contractors Association of Hawaii and Hawaii Longline Association. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Holo Holo Charters, Inc.; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that this measure exempts government-owned or government-sponsored vessels, training vessels, and fishing vessels from the requirements that the securing of mooring lines from vessels to the State's commercial docks, wharves, piers, quays, and landings be performed by labor that is subject to collective bargaining.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1402, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1402, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Labor.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1197 Transportation on S.B. No. 321

The purpose of this measure is to require that fee simple absolute title of a privately-owned highway, road, alley, street, way, lane, bikeway, bridge, or trail held by a subdivider be deemed transferred to certain owners under certain circumstances.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the existing framework of determining ownership over certain roads leaves privately owned streets, roads, alleys, and similar rights-of-way in a state of ambiguity when the original subdivider ceases to exist, often resulting in deferred maintenance and unclear responsibility for infrastructure upkeep. The lack of clear ownership often leads to deteriorating infrastructure, safety hazards, and disputes among adjacent property owners over liability and upkeep. This measure will ensure proper management and long-term maintenance of these essential thoroughfares by transferring ownership of certain private roads to contiguous property owners or their community association.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 321, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 321, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1198 Transportation on S.B. No. 419

The purpose of this measure is to require each motor vehicle insurance policy to cover the replacement cost of a child passenger restraint system that was damaged or in use by a child during a covered motor vehicle accident.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that child passenger restraint systems play a critical role in protecting children during vehicle travel, but their safety can be compromised after a motor vehicle accident, even if there is no visible damage. Your Committee further finds that without insurance coverage for a replacement, many families may continue using potentially unsafe car seats, increasing the risk of serious injury in any future accident. This measure will ensure the safety of children and reduce the financial burden on families by requiring motor vehicle insurers to cover the replacement costs of damaged child passenger restraint systems.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 419, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 419, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1199 Transportation on S.B. No. 1009

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a state reserved parking space enforcement fine for parking in spaces reserved for persons with disabilities or electric vehicles, to be deposited into the Safe Routes to School Program Special Fund; and
- (2) Increase fines for any person parking a non-electric vehicle in a space designated and marked for electric vehicles.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Ulupono Initiative; Retail Merchants of Hawaii; Hawaiian Electric; Climate Protectors Hawaii; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Accounting and General Services; and Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice.

Your Committee finds that the improper use of parking spaces reserved for persons with disabilities and electric vehicles creates significant accessibility challenges and undermines the intent of these designations. Your Committee believes that insufficient enforcement and inadequate penalties have contributed to ongoing misuse, limiting access for individuals who rely on these spaces for mobility and vehicle charging. This measure strengthens enforcement by increasing fines for unauthorized parking in these reserved spaces.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes the concerns regarding whether the Department of Accounting and General Services should cite vehicles parked in an electric vehicle charging stall that is inoperable.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1009, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1009, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1200 Transportation on S.B. No. 21

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Public Utilities Commission to:

- (1) Establish a water carrier inflationary cost index automatic adjustment mechanism; and
- (2) Waive or exempt a water carrier from the Hawaii Water Carrier Act.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Lana'i Oil Company; Young Brothers, LLC; and Hawai'i Harbors Users Group. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of Agriculture; and Public Utilities Commission.

Your Committee finds that water carriers in Hawaii face significant challenges due to inflation and regulatory lag, which hinder their ability to maintain efficient and affordable transportation services for passengers and goods. These challenges are exacerbated by the lack of a streamlined mechanism for timely rate adjustments in response to fluctuating economic conditions. This measure will allow water carriers to make annual rate adjustments to promote financial stability and service reliability.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the water carrier inflationary cost index automatic adjustment mechanism be applied at an ongoing three-year cadence, where for two consecutive years the automatic adjustment mechanism is applied and for the third year an adjustment is conducted through the general rate case process;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 21, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 21, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1201 Transportation on S.B. No. 1120

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Transportation to adopt rules regarding a clean fuel standard for alternative fuels in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Neste; Biotechnology Innovation Organization; Twelve Benefit Corporation; Infinium Operations, LLC; Amazon; Coalition Earth; Fair Wind Inc.; Island Energy Services, LLC; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Growth Energy; Par Hawaii; Hawaiian Electric; Alaska Airlines; and Hawaiian Airlines.

Your Committee finds that clean fuel policies drive the adoption of lower carbon transportation technologies, resulting in advanced competition and a diversity of fuel options for consumers. Your Committee further finds that a clean fuel standard would enable the State to meet its decarbonization goals in regard to transportation fuels.

Your Committee notes that alternative fuels technology is an emerging technology in the State and as such, the financial impacts of adoption are not easily discernable and need to be thoroughly studied to ensure its adoption does not impose an unfair financial burden on taxpayers.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Department of Transportation to conduct a feasibility study on implementing clean fuel standards for alternative fuels, including its potential fiscal impact on the State, and requiring a report to the Legislature sixty days before the convening of the Regular Session of 2027;
- (2) Requiring the Department of Transportation to start the rule making process on July 1, 2027, and adopt final rules governing a clean fuel standard for alternative fuels by January 1, 2028;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1120, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1120, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 2 (Muraoka, Pierick). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1202 Public Safety on S.B. No. 224

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to:

- (1) In collaboration with various agencies and upon request of the inmates, assist inmates in obtaining their civil identification card, birth certificate, social security card, and other relevant identification necessary for successful reentry into society, as soon as practicable, but no later than one year before the inmate's parole or release date; and
- (2) Initiate the process of obtaining identification documents for inmates released to work furlough, extended furlough, or community placement programs, by providing the forms necessary for the inmate to obtain civil identification cards and other identification documents to the inmate as soon as practicable, but no later than ninety days before the inmate's release date.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission; American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i; Community Alliance on Prisons; Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i; Hawai'i Friends of Restorative Justice; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services and Waikiki Health.

Your Committee finds that for inmates to have a successful reentry into society it becomes essential for them to possess upon release certain basic documents. This measure is just one mechanism to help individuals leaving the correctional system to reintegrate into society as smoothly as possible.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 224, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1203 Public Safety on S.B. No. 104

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Restrict the use of restrictive housing in state- operated and state-contracted correctional facilities, with certain specified exceptions;
- (2) Require the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to develop written policies and implement procedures regarding restrictive housing by July 1, 2026;
- (3) Require the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission to thoroughly review certain housing placements;
- (4) Require the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, by April 1, 2026, to develop written policies and implement procedures to review committed persons' placement in restrictive housing and initiate reviews and develop a plan regarding restrictive housing for committed persons; and
- (5) Require the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to submit a report to the Legislature and Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission no later than forty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission; Office of the Public Defender; American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i; Community Alliance on Prisons; Hawai'i Friends of Restorative Justice; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Easterseals Hawaii; and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

Your Committee finds that restrictive housing is a severe form of punishment that is closely associated with long-lasting psychological harm and poor post-release outcomes. Your Committee further finds that currently, there are concerns that any restrictions, policies, and procedures on the use of restrictive housing in the State may be insufficient. This measure attempts to address this need by limiting certain restrictive-housing practices and requiring the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to develop policies and procedures for restrictive housing.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 104, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 104, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hashem, Woodson).

SCRep. 1204 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.B. No. 533

The purpose of this measure is to require a local investor-owned electric utility that implements a planned public safety power shutoff program to provide and fund support to public schools impacted by the program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Hawaiian Electric.

Your Committee finds that a local investor-owned electric utility's planned public safety power shutoff program aims to reduce wildfire risks by proactively shutting off power in high-risk areas during specific weather conditions. Your Committee further finds that the implementation of this program poses challenges for public schools as outages may disrupt essential services. This measure appropriates funds to the Department of Education to support public schools impacted by the planned public safety power shutoff program.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the requirement that an investor-owned electric utility provide and fund support to public schools impacted by the planned public safety power shutoff program;
- (2) Adding a general fund appropriation of an unspecified amount for the Department of Education to support public schools impacted by the planned public safety power shutoff program;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and

(4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes the Department of Education's written testimony, which indicates the need for an appropriation in the amount of \$1,000,000 for fiscal years 2026 and 2027 to support impacted schools pursuant to this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 533, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 533, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Education.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1205 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.B. No. 589

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Public Utilities Commission to use tariffs for grid services programs, microgrids, community-based renewable energy, and retail wheeling with fair compensation;
- (2) Ensure that fair compensation is provided for distributed energy resources exports as part of grid service programs;
- (3) Clarify that a person that constructs, maintains, or operates a new microgrid shall not be considered a public utility solely as a result of furnishing service through that new microgrid to participating customers; and
- (4) Authorize retail wheeling.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Holu Hou Energy; Hawaii Solar Energy Association; Alternate Energy Inc.; LegaSea Energy; Sunspare Energy; Blue Planet Foundation; Photonworks Engineering; Fair Wind Inc; Malama Solar; Green Power Projects LLC; Grand Solar, Inc.; Solar Services Hawaii LLP; Sunrun; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Life of the Land; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1260; and Hawaiian Electric. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Public Utilities Commission; and Ulupono Initiative.

Your Committee finds that the transition away from imported fossil fuels toward renewable energy sources is critical for ensuring the State's energy independence, economic sustainability, and environmental resilience. Your Committee further finds that to ensure grid stability and resilience, the State must invest in grid services programs, microgrids, community-based renewable energy programs, and allow retail wheeling.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding an installation goal for customer-sited distributed energy resources;
- (2) Clarifying that energy exported from customer-sited distributed energy resources as part of a grid service program to the electric grid shall be credited at a rate sufficient to encourage deployment of customer-sited distributed energy resources in order to meet the installation goal;
- (3) Clarifying that grid service compensation values shall be sufficient to encourage participation in grid service programs;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 589, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 589, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1206 Energy & Environmental Protection/Labor on S.B. No. 1500

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Public Utilities Commission to appoint a receiver to take temporary action necessary to assure continued adequate electric services from a failing regulated investor-owned electric utility;
- (2) Require an appointed receiver to recognize and maintain any existing collective bargaining agreement and prohibit the receiver from inducing or causing a reduction in force or terminating a covered employee, other than for a cause consistent with any collective bargaining agreement; and
- (3) Appropriate funds out of the Public Utilities Commission Special Fund for any costs incurred by the Public Utilities Commission in determining whether to appoint a receiver.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1260. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Public Utilities Commission and Hawaiian Electric.

Your Committees find that the Public Utilities Commission has the authority to appoint a receiver to operate a regulated water or sewer utility if it is failing, or if there is an imminent threat of the utility failing, to provide adequate and reasonable service to its customers. Your Committees further find that the Public Utilities Commission lacks this same authority for regulated investor-owned electric utilities. This measure expands this authority to regulated investor-owned electric utilities, requires the appointed receiver to maintain any existing collective bargaining agreement, and prohibits the appointed receiver from causing a reduction in force or terminating a covered employee other than for a cause consistent with any existing collective bargaining agreement.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the appropriation;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and Labor that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1500, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1500, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Energy & Environmental Protection: Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

Labor: Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1207 Energy & Environmental Protection/Labor on S.B. No. 997

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow the Public Utilities Commission to authorize preferential rates for the purchase of firm renewable energy from facilities in conjunction with prevailing wages; and
- (2) Require public utilities to forward requests for preferential rates for the purchase of firm renewable energy produced from facilities in conjunction with prevailing wages to the Public Utilities Commission for approval.

Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Hawaii State Energy Office; and Public Utilities Commission.

Your Committees find that the State must support the development of renewable energy projects while ensuring that such projects abide by certain project labor standards. However, your Committees find that this measure, as currently drafted, allows the authorization of rates that are preferential to producers of firm renewable energy, which may increase rates for ratepayers. Your Committees further find that amendments to this measure are necessary to focus instead on the adherence of renewable energy generation projects to certain labor standards.

Your Committees have amended this measure accordingly by reverting to the version of this measure as introduced, which requires an attestation or declaration regarding project labor standards, including adherence to state-approved apprenticeship programs and prevailing wage requirements, for covered large-scale renewable energy generation projects, and further amending the measure by:

- (1) Removing the exemption to the attestation or declaration regarding project labor standards;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and Labor that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 997, S.D. 3, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 997, S.D. 3, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Energy & Environmental Protection: Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

Labor: Ayes, 6; Ayes with Reservations (Kong, Reyes Oda). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1208 Human Services & Homelessness on S.B. No. 281

The purpose of this measure is to establish the offense of torture as a class A felony in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Hawai'i; Honolulu Police Department; Hawaiian Islands Republican Women; Kulia i Ka Nu'u; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender.

Your Committee finds that existing criminal laws in the State fail to sufficiently address extreme acts of cruelty and sadistic abuse, leaving gaps in legal protections for vulnerable individuals, including children and adults. This measure establishes torture as a class A felony, ensuring that perpetrators of severe physical and psychological abuse face appropriate legal consequences.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Including the act of knowingly depriving a minor or vulnerable person of necessary food, water, or clothing as an act that can constitute the offense of torture;
- (2) Defining "deprives";
- (3) Clarifying the definition of "vulnerable person"; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 281, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 281, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1209 Human Services & Homelessness on S.B. No. 292

The purpose of this measure is to establish safe harbor protections for survivors of sexual exploitation who seek medical or law enforcement assistance.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu; Tagnawa; Imua Alliance; Rights4Girls; Sex Workers Outreach Project of Hawai'i; Ohana Unity Party; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that sex trafficking remains a serious issue in the State. Survivors often face significant barriers to seeking help, including fear of prosecution, stigma, and a lack of access to trauma-informed care. This measure establishes safe harbor protections to ensure that survivors who seek medical or law enforcement assistance are not criminalized for their exploitation and, instead, given the opportunity to access support, seek justice, and rebuild their lives.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 292, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 292, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1210 Human Services & Homelessness on S.B. No. 295

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the penalties imposed on individuals convicted for violations of temporary restraining orders and orders for protection;
- (2) Clarify that the court shall not sentence a defendant to pay a fine for violating a domestic abuse protective order if the court makes an on-the-record determination that the defendant is or will be unable to pay the fine;
- (3) Specify that a conviction for violation of a temporary restraining order issued under the same judicial case number as an order for protection shall be treated as a second or subsequent violation of an order for protection; and
- (4) Authorize the court to suspend certain jail sentences for violations of domestic abuse protective orders if the defendant meets certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu; Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Domestic Violence Action Center; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary.

Your Committee finds that protective orders are critical tools that can help shield individuals from threats and violence, yet repeated violations highlight the need for stronger enforcement. This measure strengthens accountability by increasing mandatory jail time and fines for violations, particularly for repeat offenders, and ensures that these enforceable safeguards deter future violations and enhance victim safety.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 295, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 295, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1211 Human Services & Homelessness on S.B. No. 952

The purpose of this measure is to require and appropriate funds for the Department of Human Services to establish a five-year Child Welfare System Diversion and Intervention Pilot Program to provide services for families and children involved, at risk of involvement, or at the risk of reinvolvement, with child welfare services.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Wellness and Resilience; Department of Human Services; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; Hawaii Coalition for Child Protective Reform; Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Ohana Unity Party; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that additional initiatives are necessary to address gaps in the State's child welfare system and provide meaningful support to families in need. By establishing a five-year Child Welfare System Diversion and Intervention Pilot Program, this measure fosters long-term stability and better outcomes for children and caregivers through access to trauma-informed peer support navigators, financial assistance, and other essential services.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 952, S.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1212 Human Services & Homelessness on S.B. No. 1312

The purpose of this measure is to clarify and update the sex trafficking and promoting prostitution criminal offense statutes by clarifying the definition of "profits from prostitution" and making technical and other housekeeping amendments.

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; Ohana Unity Party; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Sex Workers Outreach Project of Hawai'i.

Your Committee finds that the State has worked for over a decade to strengthen protections against sex trafficking and hold traffickers accountable, including legislative amendments targeting those who profit from prostitution. However, the Hawaii Supreme Court's ruling in the 2023 case *State v. Ibarra* has revealed ambiguities in existing statutes that may hinder enforcement efforts. This measure seeks to refine and clarify the existing laws on sex trafficking and promoting prostitution to ensure the laws are effective and enforceable, bolstering the State's commitment to prosecuting traffickers and providing stronger protections for victims.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1312, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1312, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1213 Human Services & Homelessness on S.B. No. 1609

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Human Services to establish and implement an Early Learning Services Contracts Program to make available a designated number of seats at licensed infant and toddler child care centers and family child care centers for families who are eligible for a federally funded child care subsidy through the Department.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services; Early Learning Board; Parents And Children Together; Early Childhood Action Strategy; AAUW of Hawaii; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Executive Office on Early Learning.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii faces a severe shortage of affordable child care, particularly for infants and toddlers. Many families encounter long waitlists and limited choices, while child care providers struggle with financial instability due to fluctuating enrollment and inadequate subsidy reimbursements. This measure establishes an Early Learning Services Contracts Program through the Department of Human Services, ensuring stable funding for child care providers and helping working families access safe, reliable care for their children.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Early Learning Services Contracts Program is authorized, but is not required, to provide contracts for at least one full classroom at one licensed infant and toddler child care center and one licensed group child care center per county;
- (2) Sunsetting the Early Learning Services Contracts Program on June 30, 2028; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1609, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1609, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1214 Higher Education on S.B. No. 1146

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the University of Hawaii:

- (1) For the development of an action plan and pre-engineering concept plan to help with debris management and water quality control in the Ala Wai watershed;
- (2) To establish two graduate assistant positions to assist with the action plan and pre-engineering concept plan; and
- (3) For partial summer overload support for faculty mentors providing oversight of the student project teams.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; University of Hawai'i System; Waikiki Neighborhood Board; Waikiki Beach Special Improvement District Association; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Ala Wai canal was built in the 1920s and is the largest artificial waterway in Hawaii. Your Committee further finds that floating debris in the Ala Wai canal has been a persistent problem, severely harming recreational users and the Hawaii's aquatic habitats in nearshore waters. This measure appropriates funds to the University of Hawaii for the development of an action plan and pre-engineering concept plan to help address the debris accumulation and management in the Ala Waia watershed.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1146, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1146, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Kapela, Olds, Sayama).

SCRep. 1215 Higher Education on S.B. No. 1232

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a three-year Wastewater Technology Testing Pilot Program within the University of Hawaii Water Resources Research Center.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; University of Hawai'i Water Resources Research Center; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Change and Health Working Group; The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i and Palmyra; Public Access to SunScreens Coalition; Surfrider Foundation Hawai'i Region; WAI: Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that new and emerging wastewater technologies and management solutions are being introduced that may improve public health and the environment and better protect the State's fragile coral reefs at a more affordable cost than some traditional individual wastewater systems. Your Committee further finds that these new technologies must be tested in order to be certified by the Department of Health for use in the State. Your Committee notes that the University of Hawaii Water Resources Research Center can facilitate the Department of Health's certification process with its experience, guidance, and research regarding wastewater technologies. However, the Center would need funding for a full-time coordinator position, cover administrative costs, and cover infrastructure and equipment costs for testing and analyses. This measure will establish a pilot program that will provide the Center with the resources it needs to test new wastewater technologies to facilitate the technologies' certification for use in Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1232, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1232, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Kapela, Olds, Sayama).

SCRep. 1216 Education on S.B. No. 1393

The purpose of this measure is to require the School Facilities Authority to consult with the Department of Education and other impacted departments or agencies before the conveyance of ownership rights or lease of lands owned or occupied by the Department of Education or other impacted departments or agencies to the School Facilities Authority.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the School Facilities Authority.

Your Committee finds that requiring consultation by the School Facilities Authority with the Department of Education and other impacted departments or agencies before any conveyance of ownership rights or lease of lands to the Authority will promote a practical, balanced, and cooperative approach to state land management and ensure that the Authority's land use decisions align with the Department of Education's operational and strategic goals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1393, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1393, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

SCRep. 1217 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 890

The purpose of this measure is to require any products labeled, marketed, or sold as "poi" to contain a label stating whether the product is made wholly from ingredients grown in the State or from ingredients sourced outside the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club; Kako'o Oiwai; Ko'olau Foundation; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that poi is a fundamental part of Native Hawaiian culture, with deep historical and spiritual significance tied to kalo, or taro. Mislabeling products as "poi" when they are not entirely made from locally grown kalo misleads consumers, undermines cultural traditions, and threatens the livelihoods of Hawaii's kalo farmers. This measure preserves the authenticity of poi products in the State and ensures transparency in food labeling.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that any products labeled, marketed, or sold as "poi" are required to contain a label stating whether the product is made wholly from kalo grown in the State or from kalo sourced outside the State;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 890, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 890, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1218 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 763

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an Agricultural Enforcement Program within the Department of Law Enforcement;
- (2) Establish the Agricultural Enforcement Special Fund; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for and establish positions within the Agricultural Enforcement Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Department of Agriculture; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Ulupalakua Ranch; Ponoholo Ranch; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that agricultural crimes, including theft, vandalism, and trespassing, pose substantial financial and safety risks for Hawaii's farmers and ranchers. Due to the remote locations of agricultural lands, law enforcement response times are often delayed, leading to underreported crimes and, in some cases, dangerous confrontations. To improve enforcement and deterrence, this measure establishes an Agricultural Enforcement Program within the Department of Law Enforcement to specifically address crimes affecting the agricultural sector and ensure the sustainability of Hawaii's farming industry.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the statutory reference to the offenses that involve the theft of an agricultural product or commodity under the responsibilities of state law enforcement officers in the Agricultural Enforcement Program;
- (2) Designating the Department of Agriculture, rather than the Board of Agriculture, as the entity to make certain determinations related to expenditures from the Agricultural Enforcement Special Fund;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 763, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 763, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1219 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 1276

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Extend the offense of false labeling of Hawaii-grown coffee to include roasted coffee; and
- (2) Impose a mandatory \$10,000 fine for each separate offense of false labeling of Hawaii-grown roasted coffee.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Coffee Growers Association; Heavenly Hawaiian Farms; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii-grown coffee is a cornerstone of the State's agricultural economy, generating millions in revenue each year. However, the industry is vulnerable to counterfeiting, where lower-quality coffee is mislabeled as Hawaii-grown, misleading consumers and driving down market value. This measure strengthens labeling regulations and imposes stricter penalties to safeguard the authenticity of Hawaii-grown coffee, ensuring fair market practices and preserving the industry's long-term viability.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the definition of "roasted coffee";
- (2) Adding a savings clause;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1276, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1276, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1220 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 1257

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish and appropriate funds for a permanent Agricultural Crimes Task Force to address the issue of agricultural crime in the State; and
- (2) Establish an offense of agricultural crime for committing certain property crimes on agricultural property.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Law Enforcement; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Ohana Unity Party; Griffith Livestock Company LLC; Ponoholo Ranch; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that agricultural crimes are becoming more frequent and pose a serious risk to Hawaii's farmers and ranchers. These offenses not only result in financial hardship but also weaken food security and disrupt the agricultural economy. This measure creates an Agricultural Crimes Task Force within the Department of Agriculture to strengthen enforcement efforts, enhance coordination with law enforcement, and develop strategies to prevent agricultural crimes, ensuring greater security for the State's farming communities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$500,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1257, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1257, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1221 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 177

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Division of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture to adopt, amend, and repeal rules to develop an assessment and approval process to import and move aquatic livestock in the State; and
- (2) Require and appropriate funds for the Division of Animal Industry to develop a biological aquatic risk-based framework and biocontainment standards for the aquatic livestock assessment and approval process.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Taylor Shellfish Company; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Animal Rights Hawai'i.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's aquaculture industry is a vital component of the State's diversified agricultural economy, contributing to local food production and economic sustainability. However, Hawaii's unique and biodiverse marine ecosystems are highly vulnerable to external threats, including the introduction of non-native aquatic species that may disrupt native habitats and local fisheries. This measure strengthens environmental protections by authorizing the development of a comprehensive assessment and approval process for aquaculture operations, ensuring sustainability, biosecurity, and responsible growth in the industry while safeguarding Hawaii's natural resources.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and

(2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,000,000 for the Animal Industry Division to develop the biological aquatic risk-based framework.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 177, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 177, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1222 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 328

The purpose of this measure is to establish an income tax credit for capital infrastructure costs incurred in the conversion of a dairy farm to a hog farm.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that repurposing underutilized dairy farm infrastructure for hog farming presents a significant opportunity to strengthen Hawaii's pork industry and reduce reliance on imported meat. However, farmers face substantial financial challenges in converting these facilities, including structural renovations, regulatory compliance, and acquiring specialized equipment. To support this transition, this measure establishes an income tax credit to offset capital infrastructure costs, making it more feasible for farmers to expand local pork production.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Limiting the number of years that the tax credit may be carried forward to five years after the taxable year in which the capital infrastructure costs are incurred;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 328, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 328, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1223 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 562

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Plant Nursery Registry Program to regulate the sale of nursery stock; and
- (2) Require certain plant nurseries to register with the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Invasive Species Council; Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Big Island Invasive Species Committee; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Forest Industry Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Maui Chamber of Commerce.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's nursery industry plays a crucial role in the State's agricultural economy. However, invasive species like the coconut rhinoceros beetle, little fire ant, and coqui frog, along with plant diseases, threaten the stability and success of local nurseries. While many nurseries take proactive steps to prevent infestations, the lack of statewide regulation leaves gaps that put consumers, farmers, and the environment at risk. This measure establishes a Plant Nursery Registration Program under the Department of Agriculture to strengthen oversight, prevent the spread of pests, and align Hawaii with proven regulatory models used in other states.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 562, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 562, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1224 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 558

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a statewide network of open-access food and value-added product development facilities to enable businesses to scale up new products from research and development to manufacturing and commercialization.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; Department of Agriculture; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Ulu pono Initiative; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Hawai'i Forest Industry Association; Local Food Coalition; Hawaii Food Industry Association; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that high production costs and the lack of local processing facilities force many farmers and entrepreneurs to send raw or off-grade products to the mainland for value-added processing, limiting profitability and growth. This measure addresses these challenges by creating a statewide network of open-access food and product development facilities, enabling businesses to scale up operations, reduce waste, and compete in local and global markets. By investing in value-added processing, the State can enhance farm revenues, create jobs, and strengthen Hawaii's self-sufficiency and economic resilience.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 558, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 558, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1225 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 1657

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Agribusiness Development Corporation to acquire by condemnation any real property or interest in real property, under certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Agribusiness Development Corporation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Farm Bureau.

Your Committee finds that protecting agricultural land and water resources is critical to sustaining Hawaii's farming industry and ensuring long-term food security. Over time, securing land and water access for farmers has become increasingly difficult, threatening the viability of local agriculture. This measure strengthens Agribusiness Development Corporation's ability to preserve and expand agricultural lands, ensuring they remain dedicated to farming and are available to support diversified agriculture and long-term food production.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1657, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1657, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1226 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 1541

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Waiahole Water System for bond debt service and tunnel repair.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Agribusiness Development Corporation; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Bayer; Larry Jefts Farms, LLC; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Hawaii Crop Improvement Association; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Waiahole Water System plays a vital role in transporting water from windward Oahu to central and leeward Oahu, supplying approximately five thousand six hundred acres of land, the majority of which is dedicated to agriculture. However, farmers relying on this water system face significantly higher water rates compared to similar agricultural areas, driving up production costs and, ultimately, food prices for consumers. This measure provides funding to the Agribusiness Development Corporation to eliminate bond debt and address essential infrastructure repairs, securing long-term water access for local agriculture.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$4,500,000 to pay the bond debt service on the Waiahole water system and \$2,000,000 for the repair of the adit 8 tunnel of the Waiahole water system.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1541, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1541, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1227 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 252

The purpose of this measure is to expand the Department of Agriculture's authority to conduct certain investigations and clarify certain penalties to prevent the spread of invasive species in the State by:

- (1) Clarifying that the importation of any pest or material infested or infected with an insect or other animal, disease, or pest is prohibited;
- (2) Authorizing the Department of Agriculture to administratively inspect, without good cause, any article imported or moved into the State from the continental United States or between the Hawaiian Islands; and
- (3) Clarifying penalties for various quarantine and import law violations, based in part on whether violations were knowingly committed.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawai'i Invasive Species Council; Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Hawai'i Forest Industry Association; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Big Island Invasive Species Committee; and seven individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that invasive species pose the greatest threat to Hawaii's economy, environment, and public health, leading to habitat destruction, native species extinction, increased wildfire risk, and higher agricultural costs. Despite federal pre-departure inspections for exports from Hawaii, there are no similar protections for incoming shipments, allowing invasive pests to enter the State. This measure strengthens Hawaii's biosecurity measures by improving

early detection and prevention efforts, ensuring stronger safeguards against invasive species, reducing long-term control costs, and protecting Hawaii's agriculture, biodiversity, and economy.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Reinstating language from a previous version of this measure that:
 - (A) Prohibits a person from selling, bartering, or donating any material that is infested or infected with a pest, is itself a pest, or is prohibited from being sold pursuant to state law or administrative rules;
 - (B) Allows the Department of Agriculture to compel the quarantine, treatment, or destruction of such material; and
 - (C) Specifies that any quarantine, treatment, or destruction of material shall be at the expense of the owner of the material and shall not be made a basis of a claim against the Department of Agriculture or Department inspector for damage or loss incurred;
- (2) Setting the minimum and maximum fines for a second violation within five years of a prior violation for the importation or possession of prohibited animals or plants at \$1,000 and \$20,000, respectively;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 252, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 252, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1228 Health on S.B. No. 1281

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Update the State's laws on telehealth services to conform with federal Medicare regulations;
- (2) Require the Insurance Commissioner to report to the Legislature on reimbursements claimed in the previous calendar year for certain telehealth services; and
- (3) Repeal the sunset date of Act 107, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Disability and Communication Access Board; State Council on Mental Health; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hawai'i Academy of Family Physicians; AARP Hawai'i; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center; Hawai'i Mental Health Coalition; Alzheimer's Association-Hawaii; AlohaCare; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Medical Service Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of Human Services; Department of the Attorney General; University of Hawai'i System; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawaii Medical Association; and Hawaii Association of Health Plans.

Your Committee finds that the State's rural and underprivileged communities are often cut off from receiving essential health care services through telehealth because they lack the broadband coverage necessary to access this care. Your Committee further finds that the use of standard telephone contact for telehealth visits during the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated the effectiveness of this tool as a mode of essential health care delivery, particularly for residents living in rural, isolated, or underprivileged communities.

Your Committee also finds that this measure is intended to conform telehealth definitions under state law to be consistent with recent federal guidance. However, your Committee notes that there are currently numerous uncertainties regarding federal health care policy, including how the federal government may interpret reimbursement guidelines for audio-only telehealth services. Given the lack of certainty surrounding federal policies in this area, your Committee believes that attempting to conform state law to federal regulations may be premature at this point.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the provisions that would have codified updates to the State's laws on telehealth services to conform with federal Medicare regulations and required the Insurance Commissioner to report certain reimbursement information to the Legislature;
- (2) Extending the sunset date of Act 107, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, to December 31, 2027; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1281, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1281, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1229 Health on S.B. No. 1365

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to conduct criminal history record checks for applicants for physician licensure or license renewal through the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Health Planning and Development Agency; Hawaii Medical Board; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; The Queen's Health Systems; Hawaii Medical Association; and Hawaii Medical Service Association.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii became a member state of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (Compact) on January 1, 2025, which allows physicians originally licensed in a state of principal license to practice in Hawaii with a Compact license. However, Hawaii is currently unable to participate as a state of principal license because a state of principal license must conduct criminal history record checks on physicians seeking to participate in the Compact. By authorizing the Hawaii Medical Board to conduct criminal history record checks on Compact applicants, the State will be able to fully participate in the benefits of the Compact.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$25,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1365, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1365, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1230 Health on S.B. No. 447

The purpose of this measure is to establish a three-year Hiring Pilot Program within the Department of Health to increase efficiency in hiring by the Department by delegating the performance of certain human resources services from the Department of Human Resources Development to the Department of Health.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Health's current vacancy rate is approximately thirty percent and that a recent survey indicated that forty-three percent of Department of Health respondents, compared to thirty-six percent across all departments, expect to seriously look for a new job within the next twelve months. Your Committee further finds that the Department of Health conducted a Hiring Innovation for Rapid Employment (HIRE) pilot program between August 2024 and January 2025, which was aimed at reducing the hiring time and administrative workload for delegated positions. To date, twenty-seven delegated positions were recruited through the HIRE program, with an average time of fifty-three calendar days from the applicant's referral to the Department of Health's Human Resources Office to conditional offer and an eighty percent workload reduction in the Human Resources Office's minimum qualifications review. Your Committee believes that temporarily expanding the HIRE program, as proposed by this measure, will enable the Department of Health to address its civil service workforce shortage, fill its vacancies, and retain personnel.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 447 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Labor.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1231 Health on S.B. No. 955

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase compensation for and clarify the types of professionals who may serve as a private examiner for a fitness-to-proceed examination;
- (2) Clarify the term of a defendant's commitment to a hospital or facility for purposes of a fitness-to-proceed examination;
- (3) Reduce from three to one the number of qualified examiners required for a fitness-to-proceed examination in a felony case; and
- (4) Reduce penalties to be commensurate with the underlying offense for a person charged with a nonviolent crime who escapes from the custody of the director of health while awaiting a fitness-to-proceed examination.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Maui; Hawai'i Psychological Association; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary; Department of the Attorney General; Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission; Office of the Public Defender; and Hawaii Disability Rights Center.

Your Committee finds that new approaches are needed to address lingering issues surrounding mental health and the justice system. This measure amends the fitness-to-proceed examination process in an effort to expedite cases through the legal system, which will help alleviate overcrowding in hospitals and mental health facilities while ensuring timely evaluations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that in fitness-to-proceed examinations in felony cases, the court shall additionally receive a report from the treating clinician on a defendant's fitness-to-proceed;
- (2) Removing provisions that increased the rate of compensation for persons making or assisting in fitness-to-proceed examinations;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 955, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 955, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1232 Health on S.B. No. 1432

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Kalaupapa State Historical Area;
- (2) Authorize the Department of Health to continue providing services statewide to Hansen's disease patients living in the community;
- (3) Repeal sections of Chapter 326, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to patient care at the Kalaupapa Settlement, to take effect upon the one year anniversary of the passing of the last patient resident of Kalaupapa, as affirmed in a Governor's proclamation; and

- (4) Require the Department of Health to include community organizations in the transition planning team when developing a plan for the permanent transfer of the powers and duties of State departments and agencies over Kalaupapa Settlement.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Disability and Communication Access Board; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one member of the Maui County Council. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; and Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa.

Your Committee finds that there are seven remaining individuals who are former Hansen's disease patients that reside either full- or part-time at Kalaupapa and receive services from the State. This population is aging, and all patients are eighty-three years of age or older. Your Committee further finds that once the last resident of Kalaupapa passes, the Department of Health will no longer provide patient care or services, other than environmental remediation work, for the Kalaupapa Settlement. Your Committee believes that preserving and commemorating the historical, cultural, and environmental significance of the county of Kalawao is necessary and important work and that a preliminary framework should be established to allow for the transfer of the responsibilities for the Kalaupapa Settlement from the Department of Health to another appropriate governmental or qualified non-governmental entity.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing language requiring the Department of Health to develop a plan and a transition planning team for the permanent transfer of the powers and duties of the Department over the Kalaupapa Settlement;
- (2) Requiring future planning for the permanent transfer to include a topside community organization from Molokai to be selected in consultation with the Molokai community;
- (3) Making conforming amendments repealing references to the county of Kalawao in numerous sections of the Hawaii Revised Statutes; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1432, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1432, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Amato, Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1233 Health on S.B. No. 1509

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require a health care insurer or pharmacy benefit manager to reduce an enrollee's cost share for a prescription drug by an amount equal to at least one hundred percent of any prescription drug rebate received;
- (2) Require pharmacy benefit managers to submit a certification of compliance with cost sharing requirements to the Insurance Commissioner on an annual basis;
- (3) Establish protections for the publishing of certain confidential or proprietary information by health insurers, pharmacy benefit managers, or plan sponsors that perform health care or administrative services on behalf of a health insurer or pharmacy benefit manager; and
- (4) Establish provisions relating to the final reimbursements, dispensing fees, and reimbursement rates paid to pharmacies by pharmacy benefit managers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Health Planning and Development Agency; National Community Pharmacists Association; KTA Super Stores, Pharmacy; American Pharmacists Association; Patient Pocket Protector Coalition; Hawai'i Pharmacists Association; Walgreen Co.; Coalition of State Rheumatology Organizations; 5 Minute Pharmacy; Moloka'i Drugs, Inc.; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Insurers Council; Hawaii Association of Health Plans; and Pharmaceutical Care Management Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i; and National Labor Alliance of Health Care Coalitions.

Your Committee finds that rising prescription drug costs are a major concern to Hawaii residents. Your Committee further finds that community pharmacies play a crucial role in providing health care in underserved and rural areas of the State. Your Committee believes that increasing transparency in the pricing methodologies of pharmacy benefit managers will ensure a fair and equitable reimbursement rate for prescription drug coverage.

However, your Committee recognizes that the State's unique geography and geographic isolation present particular challenges when tackling a complex issue like the regulation of pharmacy benefit managers. Your Committee believes that additional study is required to ensure that any additional regulation of pharmacy benefit managers, including the implementation of a prescription drug rebate cost sharing program, does not result in increases to enrollees or local pharmacies.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting its substantive contents and inserting language requiring the Legislative Reference Bureau to conduct a study on best practices for the regulation of pharmacy benefit managers and reduction in the cost of prescription drugs for health insurance plan beneficiaries; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1509, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1509, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1234 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 825

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) For a one-year pilot period beginning on February 5, 2026:
 - (A) Extend the required period for notice of termination for failure to pay rent from five business days to ten calendar days;
 - (B) Specify required notice provisions;

- (C) Require landlords, or their agents, and tenants to engage in mediation and require landlords or their agents to delay filing an action for summary possession if a tenant schedules mediation; and
 - (D) Require landlords or their agents to provide specific information in the ten-calendar-day notice to tenants; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the Judiciary to contract for mediation services.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services; Judiciary; Ku'ikahi Mediation Center; Mediation Centers of Hawaii; The Mediation Center of the Pacific, Inc.; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Kauai Economic Opportunity, Incorporated; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Collection Law Section of the Hawaii State Bar Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS.

Your Committee finds that Act 57, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021 (Act 57), established a temporary Pre-Litigation Mediation Program to address the potential high volume of evictions as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Through the program, mediation assisted many low-income renters to avoid eviction or allowed a negotiated move-out that avoided further judicial proceedings and judgments, while also ensuring that landlords received their payments. The Program succeeded in mediating agreements for eighty-five percent of disputes, allowing tenants to remain in their residences and providing stability to their housing situation.

Your Committee further finds that even after the expiration of Act 57, mediation has shown to be an effective tool in amicably resolving eviction disputes. After the expiration of Act 57, The Mediation Center of the Pacific, Inc., continued to offer mediation services for eviction disputes. Over the past two years, the Center mediated ninety-six early eviction cases, ninety percent of which resulting in final agreements between landlord and tenant when no rental assistance was available. This measure will reimplement some of the successful provisions of Act 57 by requiring mediation between tenants and landlords to prevent evictions, thereby allowing families to remain in stable housing and children to continue to attend their community schools and maintain their social connections.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that a landlord's agent may fully act on behalf of the landlord;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 825, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 825, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Ichiyama, Lowen).

SCRep. 1235 Transportation on S.B. No. 1667

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Subject vehicles stopped on and blocking any marked crosswalk, with or without signs or curb markings, to a fine no greater than \$500;
- (2) Expand the penalties for reckless driving of a vehicle or riding of animals;
- (3) Require a person to surrender their driver's license to a law enforcement officer if they continue to refuse to submit to a breath, blood, or urine test;
- (4) Increase the duration of the suspension of a license when a person is arrested for driving under the influence and refuses to submit to a breath, blood, or urine test;
- (5) Authorize automated speed enforcement systems by the State or county along a road or highway within two hundred feet of a school zone identified by the Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee;
- (6) Establish requirements for the State Highway Safety and Modernization Council;
- (7) Authorize the State Highway Safety and Modernization Council to select potential areas for the Department of Transportation to install an additional twenty-five photo red light imaging detector systems;
- (8) Require the Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee to identify twenty-five of the most dangerous school zones and authorize the Department of Transportation or county agencies to install additional automated speed enforcement systems at those locations; and
- (9) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Department of Transportation; Mothers Against Drunk Driving Hawaii Chapter; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Hawai'i Bicycling League; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary.

Your Committee finds that dangerous driving behaviors, including reckless speeding, impaired driving, and blocking pedestrian crosswalks, pose significant risks to public safety, leading to preventable injuries and fatalities. Your Committee further finds that the lack of adequate enforcement mechanisms has contributed to these persistent traffic violations, endangering pedestrians and motorists alike. This measure strengthens traffic safety by increasing penalties for reckless driving, expanding automated enforcement systems, and enhancing measures to deter impaired driving, thereby creating safer roadways for all residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the authorization to implement automated speed enforcement systems within two hundred feet of a school zone;
- (2) Specifying that the State Highway Safety and Modernization Council prioritize proposals for emergency egress routes in areas with significant populations of Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) households, as well as communities and households experiencing high levels of poverty;
- (3) Specifying that, of the areas submitted by the State Highway Safety and Modernization Council for emergency ingress and egress routes accessible to vehicles during emergencies or extreme congestion, one of the areas be on the Waianae Coast of Oahu;

- (4) Clarifying that the implementation by the State Highway Safety and Modernization Council be in compliance with applicable federal and state emergency management regulations;
- (5) Amending the process by which the State Highway Safety and Modernization Council and Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee selects intersections and most-dangerous school zones, including the number of such intersections and school zones;
- (6) Requiring the State Highway Safety and Modernization Council and Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee to submit annual reports;
- (7) Specifying that any expansion of the Photo Red Light Imaging Detector Systems Program or Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program account for their impact on the district courts statewide and provide up to six months from the time of identification for the courts to collaborate with the Department of Transportation before implementing any expansion of the programs;
- (8) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (9) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1667, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1667, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 1236 Transportation on S.B. No. 1117

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Rename the Electric Bicycle and Electric Moped Rebate Program to Electric Mobility Rebate Program and expand eligibility for and increase the maximum rebate amounts under the Rebate Program;
- (2) Specify that a class 3 electric bicycle with two tandem wheels that are less than twenty inches in diameter is not required to be registered;
- (3) Increase the age for required helmet use to operate an electric foot scooter or a bicycle from sixteen to eighteen years of age;
- (4) Prohibit persons under the age of fifteen from operating class 3 electric bicycles;
- (5) Require all electric bicycles to be operated only with all wheels on the ground at all times, with certain exceptions;
- (6) Prohibit certain actions while operating an electric bicycle;
- (7) Authorize the use of electric bicycles on public sidewalks under certain conditions;
- (8) Prohibit a person from operating a moped or electric motorcycle on a bicycle path, bicycle lane, or any other path or roadway designated for bicycle use;
- (9) Require insurance for electric motorcycles by including electric motorcycles into the insurance laws governing motorcycles and motor scooters;
- (10) Substitute the term "motor-driven cycle" with the term "motor scooter"; and
- (11) Prohibit an individual under the age of eighteen from operating an electric motorcycle or motor-driven cycle.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Office of Climate Change Sustainability and Resiliency of the City and County of Honolulu; Department of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Hawai'i Bicycling League; Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition; The Kapiolani Medical Center for Women and Children Level III Pediatric Trauma Center; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Ulupono Initiative; Kapiolani Medical Center for Women and Children; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from two individuals.

Your Committee finds that electric bicycles, electric mopeds, and other electric mobility devices offer a more affordable, environmentally friendly alternative to gas-powered vehicles. Your Committee believes that enhancing the electric mobility device rebate program by increasing the rebate amount and expanding eligibility will further alleviate transportation costs and foster the adoption of more sustainable transportation options for residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the definition of "electric bicycle" and making "class 1 electric bicycle", "class 2 electric bicycle", and "class 3 electric bicycle" separate definitions;
- (2) Amending the definition of "electric micro mobility device";
- (3) Defining "high-speed electric device";
- (4) Specifying that certain recipients of the rebate shall not receive more than \$1,500 in total rebates within any three consecutive fiscal years;
- (5) Changing the date when electric bicycles, electric mopeds, adaptive electric bicycles, and electric micro-mobility devices were purchased to qualify for a rebate from July 1, 2022, to July 1, 2023;
- (6) Reducing the deadline to submit an application for a rebate from twelve months to six months after the purchase date;
- (7) Authorizing the Rebate Program Administrator to authorize grants, subject to the approval of the Director of Transportation or their designee, if an individual applies after the six-month period but within twelve months of the purchase date;
- (8) Requiring, rather than authorizing, the Department of Transportation to audit an affidavit verifying that an eligible applicant does not own a registered motor vehicle with four or more wheels;
- (9) Clarifying that an eligible applicant for the additional assistance rebate who is enrolled in school, community college, or university and demonstrates a financial need and authorizing the Director of Transportation to grant exemptions to this requirement;
- (10) Specifying that any modification or alteration to an electric bicycle or electric micro-mobility device after purchase will result in the disqualification of the rebate and requiring the recipient to repay the rebate received;
- (11) Establishing a cap for the Electric Micromobility Device Subaccount;
- (12) Requiring the Department of Transportation to transfer no less than \$700,000 but no more than \$1,500,000 into the Electric Mobility Device Subaccount;

(13)Deleting language that would have required insurance for electric motorcycles by including electric motorcycles into the insurance laws governing motorcycles and motor scooters; and

(14)Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1117, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1117, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committees on Consumer Protection & Commerce and Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 1237 Economic Development & Technology on S.B. No. 732

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require each county to waive applicable permitting fees for film activity conducted on county lands by a qualified production that qualifies for the Motion Picture, Digital Media, and Film Production Income Tax Credit; and
- (2) Amend the Motion Picture, Digital Media, and Film Production Income Tax Credit by:
 - (A) Requiring the qualified production costs that exceed \$1,000,000 to be certified by an independent certified public accountant;
 - (B) Changing the annual aggregate cap on allowable credits and removing the carryover provision; and
 - (C) Including broadcast and streaming platform productions as qualified productions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State AFL-CIO; University of Hawai'i System; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; Island Film Group; IATSE Local 665; Hawaii Medica Inc.; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Taxation; Honolulu Film Office; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the State should incentivize growth in the film and media industry to help spur economic diversification and development.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the requirement that counties waive permitting fees for certain film activity conducted on county lands;
- (2) Establishing the Island Film and Media Production Investment Fund;
- (3) Providing an additional five percent tax credit to qualified productions with a workforce of at least eighty percent local hires;
- (4) Adding a requirement that productions contact all local labor unions servicing Hawaii's film industry before the start date of production in order to qualify for the Motion Picture, Digital Media, and Film Production Income Tax Credit;
- (5) Reinstating the carryover provision for the Motion Picture, Digital Media, and Film Production Income Tax Credit;
- (6) Applying the general excise tax rate for manufacturers to productions;
- (7) Exempting from the general excise tax amounts received by a motion picture project employer from a client equal to amounts that are disbursed by the motion picture project employer for employee wages, salaries, payroll taxes, insurance premiums, and employment benefits and payments to loan-out companies;
- (8) Adding a general fund appropriation to capitalize the Island Film and Media Production Investment Fund;
- (9) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (10)Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 732, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 732, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Holt).

SCRep. 1238 Economic Development & Technology on S.B. No. 125

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Expand the definition of "eligible business activity" for purposes of the State Enterprise Zone Program by including:
 - (A) The sale of tangible personal property manufactured and sold at retail in an enterprise zone for consumption or use by the purchaser and not for resale;
 - (B) The processing of value-added agricultural products, all or some of which were grown within an enterprise zone; and
 - (C) The provision of professional services by health care professionals in health-care-related sectors;
- (2) Extend from seven years to nine years the eligibility period of the state business tax credit and general excise tax exemption for qualified businesses within enterprise zones; and
- (3) Extend from ten years to twelve years the eligibility period of the general excise tax exemption for qualified businesses within enterprise zones engaged in the manufacturing of tangible personal property or the producing or processing of agricultural products.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Holomua Collaborative; Mana Up; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Title Guaranty of Hawai'i; HPM Building Supply; Tori Richard; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Hawai'i Forest Industry Association; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Hawaii Military Affairs Council; Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the State Enterprise Zone Program, which provides tax incentives and other benefits to businesses that engage in eligible business activities in designated enterprise zones, excludes certain manufacturers that sell directly to consumers, which is now a common business model among manufacturers. Your Committee further finds that there is a need to expand the eligibility periods for tax incentives provided to certain qualified businesses within enterprise zones. This measure allows additional activities within an enterprise zone to qualify for State Enterprise Zone Program benefits and extends the eligibility period for the state business tax credit and general excise tax exemption for certain qualified businesses.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Expanding the definition of "eligible business activity" to include the use of advanced manufacturing to produce products and the development of cybersecurity technology;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 125, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 125, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committees on Agriculture & Food Systems and Health.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Holt).

SCRep. 1239 Economic Development & Technology on S.B. No. 816

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Due Process in Immigration Proceedings Program within the Judiciary to provide legal representation to individuals in immigration-related proceedings in immigration court.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission; Office of the Public Defender; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Rainbow Family 808; ACLU Hawai'i; Pride at Work Hawai'i; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Ka Ohana O Na Pua; University of Hawaii William S. Richardson School of Law Refugee & Immigration Law Clinic; The Legal Clinic; Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights; North Hawaii Community Action Network; Unite Here! Local 5; Coalition for Democracy; Hawai'i Filipino Lawyers Association; Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaii Patriot Republicans; Hawaiian Islands Republican Women; Calvary Chapel Westside; Kohala Girls Club; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that the State should ensure that all Hawaii residents, regardless of citizenship status, have certain due process protections. Your Committee further finds that many individuals facing deportation or other immigration-related proceedings lack legal representation. This measure addresses this need by establishing a Due Process in Immigration Proceedings Program to provide representation to individuals in immigration-related proceedings.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Judiciary to ensure that the entities contracted to implement and operate the Due Process in Immigration Proceedings Program provide training and education for law students and legal practitioners to provide legal representation to individuals in immigration-related proceedings in immigration court;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 816, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 816, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, 1 (Matsumoto). Excused, 1 (Holt).

SCRep. 1240 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 746

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a two-year Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Eradication Pilot Program under the Department of Land and Natural Resources to provide community-based incentives to eradicate the coconut rhinoceros beetle in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Invasive Species Council; Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Hawai'i Forest Industry Association; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the coconut rhinoceros beetle is one of the most destructive invasive species threatening Hawaii's agriculture, environment, and cultural resources. The coconut rhinoceros beetle has since spread across Oahu and to Kauai, Maui, and Hawaii Island, causing severe damage to coconut, royal, date, and fan palms, as well as other crops such as taro, banana, pineapple, and sugarcane. To combat this growing threat, this measure establishes a two-year, Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Eradication Pilot Program under the Department of Land and Natural Resources, encouraging public participation in government-led eradication efforts to protect Hawaii's natural and cultural landscapes.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Eradication Pilot Program shall only be conducted in areas where there are established infestations of coconut rhinoceros beetles within counties with a population of five hundred thousand or more;
- (2) Clarifying language to ensure that community members are compensated for the collection and submission of coconut rhinoceros beetles and larvae that are captured and not bred;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 746, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 746, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1241 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 1249

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an Agricultural Crime Prevention Program within the Department of Agriculture to provide grants, education, administrative enforcement, and other services for the benefit of the State's agricultural industry;
- (2) Clarify, create, and strengthen laws regarding crimes and violations related to agriculture or agricultural lands and hunting on private agricultural lands;
- (3) Establish clear distinctions between administrative and criminal penalties; and
- (4) Appropriate funds for certain positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Ulupalakua Ranch; Kualoa Ranch; McCandless Ranch; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Budget and Finance; and Hawaii Cattlemen's Council.

Your Committee finds that agricultural crimes, including theft, vandalism, trespassing, and illegal hunting, pose a growing threat to Hawaii's farmers, ranchers, and overall food security. Limited law enforcement resources and enforcement gaps have made it difficult to effectively prevent and prosecute agricultural crimes, leaving farmers vulnerable to repeat offenses. To address these concerns, this measure establishes an Agricultural Crime Prevention Program within the Department of Agriculture to provide grants for security improvements, strengthen education and outreach, and enhance coordination with law enforcement, ensuring stronger protections for the agricultural sector and local food production.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Strengthening language in the preamble related to how unauthorized hunting on private lands negatively impacts agricultural lands and farmers and ranchers;
- (2) Clarifying certain sentencing provisions related to various criminal property damage offenses;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$83,064 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) Grant Chief position; \$73,836 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) State Agricultural Crimes Coordinator position; \$273,120 for four full-time equivalent (4.0 FTE) Agricultural Crimes County Coordinator positions; \$49,860 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) Administrative Assistant III position; and \$500,000 for vehicles, travel, office equipment, office space, and other expenses.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1249, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1249, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1242 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 894

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Education for statewide regional kitchen expansion to fulfill its statutory mandate to provide farm to school meals that consist of at least thirty percent locally sourced products.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Education; University of Hawai'i System; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that despite the State's commitment to sourcing thirty percent of school meals from local farmers by 2030, only 6.14 percent of ingredients currently come from within the State. Schools face significant obstacles in meeting this goal, including outdated kitchen infrastructure, inadequate storage, and limited capacity to handle fresh, unprocessed food. This measure allocates funding to modernize school kitchens and dining facilities, allowing them to better prepare and serve meals made with locally grown ingredients.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying the various allocations related to the statewide regional kitchen expansion for the Department of Education for fiscal years 2025-2026 and 2026-2027;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$55,650,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$16,500,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027, including:

- (1) For fiscal year 2025-2026:
 - (A) \$55,000,000 for additional design and construction funds to service Central, Leeward, and Windward District Complex Areas in the City and County of Honolulu through the expansion of the current Phase 1 Whitmore Regional Kitchen;
 - (B) \$100,000 for a feasibility analysis for a second Oahu site to service Honolulu District Complex Areas in the City and County of Honolulu to produce a minimum of forty thousand meals a day;
 - (C) \$250,000 for a feasibility analysis for two sites to service the Hawaii District Complex Areas in the County of Hawaii, with one site on the east side of the island to produce a minimum of twelve thousand meals a day and one site on the west side of the island to produce a minimum of fifteen thousand meals a day;
 - (D) \$150,000 for a feasibility analysis for one site to service the Maui District Complex Areas, except Hana, Lanai, and Molokai, in the County of Maui to produce a minimum of eighteen thousand meals a day; and

- (E) \$150,000 for a feasibility analysis for one site to service the Kauai District Complex Areas to produce a minimum of twelve thousand meals a day in the County of Kauai; and
- (2) For fiscal year 2026-2027:
 - (A) \$4,500,000 for further due diligence, planning, design, and land acquisition for the additional site and assessment of the receiving school kitchens in the City and County of Honolulu;
 - (B) \$6,000,000 for further due diligence, design, and land acquisition for two sites and assessment of the receiving school kitchens to service the Hawaii District Complex Areas in the County of Hawaii, with one site on the east side of the island and one site on the west side of the island;
 - (C) \$3,000,000 for further planning, design, and land acquisition for one site and assessment of the receiving school kitchens to service the Maui District Complex Areas in the County of Maui; and
 - (D) \$3,000,000 for further planning, design, and land acquisition for one site and assessment of the receiving school kitchens to service the Kauai District Complex Areas in the County of Kauai.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 894, S.D. 3, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 894, S.D. 3, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Education.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 3. Noes, 1 (Perruso). Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1243 Public Safety on S.B. No. 353

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit the Governor or a mayor from suspending agency response deadlines for certain public records or vital records or statistics during a state of emergency;
- (2) Add a definition of the term "severe warning";
- (3) Limit the authority of the Governor or a mayor to suspend laws during states of emergency; and
- (4) Allow the Legislature and county councils to terminate, by an affirmative two-thirds vote, a state of emergency, in whole or in part, issued by the Governor or a mayor, respectively.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Public First Law Center; Society of Professional Journalists - Hawaii Chapter; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Libertarian Party of Hawaii; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency and Department of Human Services. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Information Practices.

Your Committee finds that this measure clarifies state and county emergency management authority, supports effective and adaptable emergency responses, and maintains accountability and checks and balances within the framework of the Hawaii State Constitution.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 353, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 353, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1244 Public Safety on S.B. No. 1612

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to establish a five-year Fitness to Proceed Pilot Program to help reduce overcrowding at the Hawaii State Hospital and ensure the safety of the hospital's staff and personnel; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for this purpose.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender and Hawai'i Psychological Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; Department of Health; and Hawaii Disability Rights Center.

Your Committee finds that jail-based competency restoration programs potentially offer an effective alternative to traditional inpatient psychiatric hospitals. Your Committee further finds that this approach, which aligns with modern correctional system principles, is worth further consideration.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Limiting the Fitness to Proceed Pilot Program to the county of the State that has a population of more than two hundred thousand but less than five hundred thousand;
- (2) Modifying the nature of the collaborative partnership between the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and Department of Health;
- (3) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee requests that the Department of Health provide information and statistics about the number of patients transferred to the Hawaii State Hospital who might otherwise qualify for the Pilot Program.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1612, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1612, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Health.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Souza). Noes, 2 (Iwamoto, Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1245 Energy & Environmental Protection/Human Services & Homelessness on S.B. No. 191

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish and appropriate funds for the Hawaii Home Energy Assistance Program to assist eligible households in paying for their energy bills; and
- (2) Require the Public Utilities Commission Public Benefits Fee Administrator to provide certain information and assistance to recipients of the Program.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of Human Services; Public Utilities Commission; Hawaiian Electric; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Life of the Land; Hawai'i Energy; Hawai'i Workers Center; Hawaii Climate Change and Health Working Group; Coalition Earth; Ohana Unity Party; and four individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committees find that Hawaii's high electricity rates create a financial burden for many residents, particularly low-income households. Existing energy assistance programs serve only a small fraction of eligible families due to limited funding and outdated federal allocation formulas. This measure expands financial support options to cover rising energy costs.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the number of positions established to unspecified numbers;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committees respectfully request your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider:

- (1) An appropriation amount of \$5,000,000; and
- (2) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) position and two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) temporary positions.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and Human Services & Homelessness that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 191, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 191, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Energy & Environmental Protection: Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

Human Services & Homelessness: Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Alcos, Garcia).

SCRep. 1246 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.B. No. 137

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Public Utilities Commission to consider whether approving a proposed merger or acquisition of an electric utility company would or would not further the State's renewable energy goals;
- (2) Prohibit the acquiring entity of an electric utility company from terminating or attempting to renegotiate any existing and valid power purchase agreements and require the acquiring entity to assume and be bound by existing collective bargaining agreements and retain all covered employees; and
- (3) Establish a process to ensure that when an application for the proposed acquisition, merger, or consolidation of an electric utility company is filed by an acquiring entity that is an investor-owned utility, alternative bona fide applications from entities that operate under a non-investor-owned utilities ownership model are concurrently considered.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1260; Ulupono Initiative; and AES Hawai'i. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Public Utilities Commission; Life of the Land; and Hawaiian Electric.

Your Committee finds that the State should ensure that the acquisition, merger, or consolidation of an electric utility company does not adversely impact the State's progress toward its renewable energy goals and that proper processes are in place to ensure that bids from non-investor-owned utilities are also considered.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the process for the acquisition, merger, or consolidation of electric utility companies by requiring the electric utility to demonstrate that it solicited bids from potential acquiring entities that operate under non-investor-owned utilities ownership models and submit acceptable bids from such entities concurrently with an application by an acquiring entity that is an investor-owned utility;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 137, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 137, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1247 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.B. No. 639

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify the level of environmental restoration that owners and operators of underground storage tanks or tank systems must satisfy in the event of a confirmed release of jet fuel; and
- (2) Establish a rebuttable presumption that any detection of these contaminants in the vicinity of an underground storage tank or a tank system after a confirmed release is a result of the confirmed release.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Honolulu Board of Water Supply; Ka Lāhui Hawai‘i; Sierra Club of Hawai‘i; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i; 350Hawaii.org; Hawai‘i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Free Access Coalition; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that the contamination of groundwater and drinking water by jet fuel from underground storage tanks poses an unacceptable threat to public health and natural ecosystems. This measure ensures that any release of jet fuel is fully remediated with the goal of complete removal, safeguarding Hawaii's water resources for future generations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the cleanup and removal of jet fuel shall be to levels below the detection limits of the best and most sensitive technology and methods available, with the goal of complete remediation;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 639, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 639, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1248 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.B. No. 1395

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allocate the interest earned on balances within the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund to the general fund in years in which the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund's balance exceeds the fund balance objective set for the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund established in Administrative Directive number 22-01; and
- (2) Require the Governor, for any fiscal year that follows a fiscal year in which Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund interest is deposited into the general fund, to include in the budget or supplemental budget submitted to the Legislature a request that an amount of general funds equal to the amount of interest deposited be expended to advance projects that address climate change impacts.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Governor; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawai‘i State Energy Office; Hawai‘i Climate Advisory Team; The Nature Conservancy; Hawai‘i Executive Collaborative Climate Hawai‘i partners; Care for ‘Āina Now Coalition; Hawai‘i Food+ Policy; Catholic Charities Hawai‘i; Hawai‘i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawai‘i; Hawai‘i Land Trust; Coalition Earth; Vibrant Hawai‘i; Wildfire Safety Advocates of Waikoloa; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Libertarian Party of Hawaii and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of the Governor Recovery and Resiliency Unit; Hawaii Emergency Management Agency; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the State is experiencing a climate emergency, which threatens the future of the State's economy, sustainability, environment, security, culture, and way of life. Comprehensive action is needed for successful mitigation of and adaptation to climate change. This measure establishes dedicated state funding to address the impacts of climate change on the State and mitigate further impacts.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1395, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1395, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1249 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.B. No. 946

The purpose of this measure is to clarify that the prohibition against discharging wastewater or raw sewage into state waters after December 31, 2026, applies to treatment plants.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health and Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai‘i Reef and Ocean Coalition.

Your Committee finds that prohibiting practices that discharge wastewater and raw sewage is necessary to protect Hawaii's waters. Your Committee further finds that existing law prohibits the discharge of any treated or raw sewage into state waters, with certain exemptions. This measure is intended to clarify what discharge is subject to the law and what is exempt.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the exemption for treatment plants that produce clean energy;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 946, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 946, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1250 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.B. No. 984

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Ensure that landowners in possession of ten thousand or more acres are liable for damages arising from runoff originating on the land and entering into state waters or onto state lands; and
- (2) Require the Department of Health to prioritize the enforcement of water pollution control regulations in known rural areas.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; Brue Baukol Capital Partners; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Ulupalakua Ranch; Haleakala Ranch; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that increased extreme rainfall events have led to severe runoff pollution that damages Hawaii's coastal ecosystems and marine life. Large landowners engaging in activities that destabilize soil contribute significantly to runoff, increasing the risk of polluted runoff entering state waters. This measure establishes civil liability for large landowners whose runoff causes environmental harm.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the statutory placement of the language in this measure from the water pollution chapter to the nonpoint source pollution management and control chapter;
- (2) Clarifying that the liability applies to landowners of ten thousand or more acres that are within the State and for fines under nonpoint source pollution management and control penalties and damages;
- (3) Removing provisions that held these landowners liable for runoff entering onto state lands;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 984, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 984, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1251 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.B. No. 1220

The purpose of this measure is to require:

- (1) Gas utility companies to file a proposed initial renewable gas tariff or tariffs with the Public Utilities Commission by August 31, 2025; and
- (2) The Public Utilities Commission to establish an initial or revised renewable gas tariff or tariffs no later than nine months after the filing of a completed application for a proposed renewable gas tariff if the Public Utilities Commission finds the tariff to meet certain conditions and standards.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Makakilo/Kapolei/Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board No. 34; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Gas; Coalition for Renewable Natural Gas; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; and Hawai'i Bioeconomy Trade Organization. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Life of the Land. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Public Utilities Commission.

Your Committee finds that utilizing renewable energy resources that have the potential to contribute to renewable gas production will help the State achieve its environmental and climate resilience goals. Your Committee further finds that by establishing an accelerated timeline for the Public Utilities Commission to review and approve any proposed renewable gas tariff, this measure would expedite the availability of renewable gas service in the State, in furtherance of greater renewable energy deployment and the State's decarbonization goals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Authorizing the Consumer Advocate to object to the sufficiency of any application for a proposed renewable gas tariff and requiring the Public Utilities Commission to hear and determine any objection in determining the completeness of an application and thereby the date of commencement of the nine-month period;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1220, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1220, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5; Ayes with Reservations (Perruso). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1252 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.B. No. 1396

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Beginning January 1, 2026, amend the Transient Accommodation Tax to an unspecified amount; and

- (2) Require the Governor to request in the budget or supplemental budget submitted to the Legislature that an amount of general funds equal to an unspecified percentage of the transient accommodations tax revenue be expended to advance specific projects that address climate change and support tourism marketing and destination management.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Governor; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawai'i Tourism Authority; Hawai'i State Energy Office; Hawaii Emergency Management Agency; Hawai'i Climate Advisory Team; The Nature Conservancy; Care for 'Āina Now Coalition; Resources Legacy Fund; Hawaii Ocean Legislative Task Force; National Tropical Botanical Garden; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Kingdom Pathways; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Vibrant Hawai'i; Coalition Earth; Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement; Hawai'i Land Trust; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Wildfire Safety Advocates of Waikoloa; Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Activities and Attractions Association of Hawaii; Atlantis Adventures LLC; Kohala Coast Resort Association; True Blue Inc.; Maui Hotel & Lodging Association; Sailing Maui Inc.; Hula Girl Sailing Charters; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Hawaii Hotel Alliance; American Hotel & Lodging Association; and seven individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of the Governor Recovery and Resiliency Unit; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Taxation; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority; Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that climate change will have a detrimental impact on the State's environment, culture, and economy. Your Committee further finds that the State must invest in efforts to reduce climate change impacts now to limit current and future consequences of climate change. This measure establishes a dedicated source of state funding through transient accommodations tax revenue to fund resiliency projects that address climate change.

Your Committee further finds that H.B. No. 504, H.D. 1 (Regular Session of 2025), a substantially similar measure, was previously passed by your Committee.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting its contents and inserting the contents of H.B. No. 504, H.D. 1, a measure that:
 - (A) Amends the transient accommodations tax rate beginning January 1, 2027;
 - (B) Beginning January 1, 2027, requires a \$20 transient accommodations tax to be levied per night for each furnishing of transient accommodations in exchange for points, miles, or other amounts through a membership, loyalty, or rewards program; and
 - (C) Appropriates funds for the protection, management, and restoration of the State's natural resources;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion;
- (3) Amending the preamble to express the nexus between economic development and environmental stewardship; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1396, S.D. 3, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1396, S.D. 3, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committees on Tourism and Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1253 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.B. No. 438

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit waste and disposal facilities on land in an agricultural district with class A or B soils;
- (2) Prohibit the construction, modification, or expansion of any waste or disposal facility for solid waste or hazardous waste on land that is near or above a significant aquifer;
- (3) Prohibit the utilization of fly ash, bottom ash, or a combination of fly ash and bottom ash from a municipal waste combustor, including any ash residue that remains after removal of metals for recycling into new metal products, for the purposes of road building, construction, or as alternative daily cover material on a landfill and require these materials from a municipal waste combustor to be disposed of in a double-lined and duly licensed municipal solid waste or hazardous waste landfill; and
- (4) Clarify that the existing buffer zone between waste or disposal facilities and residential, school, or hospital property lines applies to municipal solid waste landfill units or components, construction and demolition landfill units, and their components.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Honolulu Board of Water Supply; Makakilo/Kapolei/Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board No. 34; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Energy Justice Network; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hui Malama Pono Hawai'i; Free Access Coalition; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Transportation; Department of Environmental Services of the City and County of Honolulu; Department of Environmental Management of the County of Hawai'i; Prince Kūhiō Hawaiian Civic Club; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Public Works of the County of Kaua'i; Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs; and Reworld.

Your Committee finds that the State's freshwater aquifers are crucial in providing drinking water to residents. Your Committee further finds that agricultural land of the State should be protected from pollution and contamination. This measure prohibits certain waste facilities on the most productive lands in the agricultural district and the construction, modification, or expansion of any waste or disposal facility on land near or above a significant aquifer.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that no landfill unit, rather than a waste or disposal facility, shall be located on land within the agricultural district with class A or B soils and that landfill units, rather than waste or disposal facilities, are not permissible uses within the agricultural district;
- (2) Removing the prohibition on fly ash and bottom ash;
- (3) Clarifying that the application of the existing buffer zone between waste or disposal facilities and certain property lines to municipal solid waste landfill units or components, construction and demolition landfill units, and their components begins on July 1, 2025;

- (4) Prohibit the construction, modification, or expansion of a landfill unit inland of the underground injection control line in a county with a population greater than five hundred thousand, with certain exemptions;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 438, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 438, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1254 Health on S.B. No. 1040

The purpose of this measure is to require the Office of Wellness and Resilience to develop, implement, and administer a Medical Debt Acquisition and Forgiveness Program to acquire and forgive medical debt owned by certain households in the State and appropriate funds for this purpose.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Wellness and Resilience; State Health Planning and Development Agency; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; The Queen's Health Systems; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Holomua Collaborative; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Title Guaranty of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Gas; Mana Up; Tori Richard, Ltd.; Leukemia & Lymphoma Society; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that approximately four out of ten Americans and one out of ten Hawaii residents have some form of medical debt, which can take a serious toll on individuals' and families' mental and physical well-being. The medical debt crisis is further exacerbated by commercial debt buyers who purchase outstanding and dormant medical debts for pennies on the dollar and then take aggressive action to collect from individuals and families who find themselves unable to pay. Your Committee further finds that other states and cities in the United States have partnered with a nonprofit organization that has successfully purchased billions of dollars in medical debt and then abolished the debt owed by patients. However, your Committee agrees with the concerns raised in testimony by the Department of Budget and Finance regarding the uncertain fiscal requirements of such a program and believes that a study to determine the costs and feasibility of a medical debt acquisition and forgiveness program before proceeding to establish the program in statute is warranted.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the substantive contents of this measure and inserting language requiring the Office of Wellness and Resilience to conduct a study on the feasibility of establishing a medical debt acquisition and forgiveness program for certain households in the State and submit a report to the Legislature before the Regular Session of 2026; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1040, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1040, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1255 Health on S.B. No. 1429

The purpose of this measure is to make various amendments to the medical cannabis laws for the purposes of strengthening consumer protection and patient access by:

- (1) Authorizing the Department of Health to impose penalties and take enforcement actions for violations of the medical cannabis laws;
- (2) Allowing primary caregivers to care for up to five qualifying patients;
- (3) Repealing the prohibition on primary caregivers cultivating medical cannabis for qualifying patients;
- (4) Extending the authorized period for which the Department of Health's interim rules are effective until July 1, 2027; and
- (5) Extending the exemption from civil service laws for certain Department of Health personnel until June 30, 2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health and Akamai Cannabis Consulting. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Noa Botanicals and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Hawai'i Cannabis Industry Association; Cure Oahu; Aloha Green Apothecary; and Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that according to the rapid survey of Hawaii medical cannabis patients and providers conducted by the Department of Health in 2022, fifty-five percent of patients indicated that they obtained their cannabis exclusively from a licensed medical cannabis dispensary. This means forty-five percent of cannabis patients obtain their medical cannabis from other sources, including cultivation. Your Committee further finds that Act 309, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, prohibited primary caregivers from cultivating cannabis for qualifying patients after December 31, 2024. Your Committee believes that qualifying patients should have multiple options for obtaining medical cannabis, including having a primary caregiver grow an adequate supply of cannabis for medical use on their behalf.

However, your Committee also recognizes the concerns raised in testimony before your Committee by the Department of the Attorney General and Department of Health that allowing a primary caregiver to care for and cultivate cannabis for up to five patients would risk commercializing the caregiver role, which could potentially harm both patients as well as the integrity of the medical cannabis program.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making administrative penalties, cease and desist orders, and orders for corrective action final twenty calendar days after the date of the written notice, unless a contested case hearing is requested;
- (2) Reverting to existing statutory language authorizing a primary caregiver to provide care to only one qualifying patient and removing language that allowed each location used to cultivate cannabis to be used for cultivation for no more than five qualifying patients;

- (3) Extending the sunset for the exemption from civil service requirements for personnel hired by, or contracts entered into by, the Department of Health to July 1, 2029; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1429, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1429, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1256 Labor on S.B. No. 307

The purpose of this measure is to establish the right of a person to record law enforcement activities and a private right of action for any violation of the right to record law enforcement activities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; ACLU Hawai'i; and Public First Law Center.

Your Committee finds that the First Amendment of the United States Constitution protects freedom of speech and expression and courts have determined that this includes the right to record police officers in public spaces so long as it does not interfere with the officer's duties and is done lawfully. Your Committee further finds that it is important to protect the right to record law enforcement activities, prevent infringements upon this right, and provide a remedy when this right is violated. Your Committee believes that this measure strikes an appropriate balance between an individual's right to record law enforcement activities and bring an action for any violation of this right with law enforcement's ability to carry out its duties.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 307, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 307, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1257 Labor on S.B. No. 935

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the retirement allowance for a member who first earned credited service as a judge after June 30, 2025, to 1.75 percent of their average final compensation for each year of credited service as a judge;
- (2) Include sheriffs and deputy sheriffs to the enhanced retirement benefits category;
- (3) Reduce the minimum years of credited service required for Tier 2 members for vesting benefits from ten years to five years; and
- (4) Increase employer contributions to offset the liability produced by the changes to the vesting benefits schedule.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Governor; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; and Hawai'i State Teachers Association. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i State Trial Judges Association; West Hawaii Bar Association; Hawaii State Bar Association; State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; International Longshore and Warehouse Union Local 142; American Judicature Society; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary; Department of Law Enforcement; Department of Budget and Finance; Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees; Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund; and United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee finds that the State is challenged with recruiting qualified candidates and retaining current employees because benefits packages are not as alluring as they used to be and not as competitive as the lucrative compensation and benefits packages offered in the private sector. Your Committee also finds that state agencies experience high turnover rates in the first decade of employee service, exemplifying the challenge to retain employees. This measure seeks to reduce the number of years that Tier 2 members must have to be eligible for vesting benefits from ten years to five years which would improve employee retention and recruitment, without burdening the State's accrued liability by also increasing employer contributions.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the implications of reducing the multipliers for credited service on certain classes of employees, as provided by the Employees' Retirement System's testimony and whether increasing employee contributions to 21.85 percent for sheriffs and deputy sheriffs, to conform to the requirements of employee contributions for enhanced retirement benefits, would have a negative impact on recruitment efforts, as provided by the Department of Budget and Finance's testimony.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 935, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 935, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5; Ayes with Reservations (Kapela, Kong). Noes, 1 (Reyes Oda). Excused, none.

SCRep. 1258 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 1100

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Rename the Department of Agriculture as the "Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity";

- (2) Rename the Board of Agriculture as the "Board of Agriculture and Biosecurity";
- (3) Establish a Deputy Chairperson for Biosecurity;
- (4) Require the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture and Biosecurity to establish an emergency response team to respond to biosecurity events;
- (5) Authorize the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity to establish transitional facilities where imported articles first received may be stored while being inspected;
- (6) Require the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to license and train biosecurity inspectors;
- (7) Require inspection, labeling, and any necessary disinfection or quarantine of various items transported interisland;
- (8) Increase penalties for illegally importing or transporting plants, animals, and microorganisms;
- (9) Require the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity to establish government-industry agreements with businesses to prevent, detect, and respond to unwanted organisms in Hawaii and an invasive species dashboard to provide public, real-time data on treatment areas;
- (10) Authorize pest management plans to address, contain, or eradicate pests;
- (11) Transfer the Hawaii Invasive Species Council from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity;
- (12) Authorize the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity to adopt rules to establish and enforce the Plant Care Component Program; and
- (13) Appropriate funds for biosecurity efforts and programs, including certain positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; University of Hawai'i System; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Hawai'i Forest Industry Association; Green Party of Hawai'i; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Free Access Coalition; Hawai'i Harbors Users Group; Mālama Maunaloa; Conservation Council for Hawai'i; Native Ecosystem Services; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Pest Control Board; Hawai'i Invasive Species Council; Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species; Big Island Invasive Species Committee; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Retail Merchants of Hawaii; Slow Food in Hawaii; Sugarland Farms, Inc.; The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i and Palmyra; Kaua'i Invasive Species Committee; Maui Invasive Species Committee; O'ahu Invasive Species Committee; Hawaii Ant Lab; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that invasive species continue to pose a major threat to Hawaii's agriculture, environment, and economy. Strengthening biosecurity efforts with enhanced emergency response measures and proactive management is essential to minimizing these impacts. This measure equips the State with stronger biosecurity tools, ensuring a more effective response to invasive species and protecting Hawaii's natural resources and long-term food security.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have transferred the Hawaii Invasive Species Council from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity;
- (2) Changing the number of authorized positions related to biosecurity that were established in Act 231, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, to an unspecified number;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider including forty-four full-time equivalent (44.0 FTE) positions related to biosecurity that were established in Act 231, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1100, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1100, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1259 Economic Development & Technology on S.B. No. 148

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Rename the Boxing Commission of Hawaii to the Combat Sports Commission of Hawaii and expand the Commission's jurisdiction to include combat sports contests; and
- (2) Repeal the chapter regulating mixed martial arts contests.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that there is a need for the State to regulate a broader range of combat sports events to ensure the safety and well-being of participants. This measure addresses this need by renaming and expanding the jurisdiction of the Boxing Commission to include combat sports contests. While many of the provisions from chapter 440E, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to mixed martial arts contests, are included in this measure to apply to combat sports contests, certain provisions involving amateur sports contests and safety measures have been omitted. Your Committee finds that these provisions should be incorporated into this measure with required compliance by combat sports events but discretionary compliance by small combat sports events, which may not be as well equipped to accommodate more stringent requirements. Your Committee's intent is to ensure the safe conduct of combat sports events without curtailing or impeding the operation of smaller events.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Including amateur combat sports contests among the kinds of combat sports regulated by the Commission;
- (2) Adding a definition for "small combat sports contests" and providing certain exemptions for these contests;
- (3) Changing the requirement that each combat sports contestant be examined by at least one licensed health care provider from one to three hours before the combat sports contest;
- (4) Requiring all contestants to furnish a medical report and previous fight records to the Commission;

- (5) Allowing amateur combat sports contests to be placed under the supervision of any recognized national amateur combat sports association;
- (6) Requiring promoters, except promoters of small combat sports events, to provide written confirmation that an ambulance with paramedics and appropriate security has been obtained and will be present at the venue;
- (7) Requiring every promoter to have at least two licensed physicians or, for small combat sports events two licensed health care providers who need not be physicians, in attendance at every combat sports contest and requiring a pre-contest medical examination report to be filed with the Commission within forty-eight hours after the contest;
- (8) Clarifying that this measure is intended to take effect on April 1, 2026;
- (9) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (10) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 148, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 148, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committees on Consumer Protection & Commerce and Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Holt).

SCRep. 1260 Water & Land/Public Safety on S.B. No. 1296

The purpose of this measure is to exempt the reconstruction of any lawfully constructed structure that was damaged or destroyed in a disaster caused by wildfire, hurricane, flooding, tsunami, or earthquake proclaimed by the Governor to constitute a state of emergency from the requirements of a special management area minor permit or a special management area use permit, under certain conditions.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Maui Hotel and Lodging Association; Lahaina Restoration Foundation; The Art Source Inc.; Pacific Rim Land, Inc.; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Lahaina Town Action Committee; Front Street Recovery Organization; Atlantis Submarines – Maui; Trilogy Excursions; Hakuna Matata Hostel; Lāhainā Strong; and numerous individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committees received comments on this measure from six individuals.

Your Committees find that special controls on development are necessary in coastal areas to preserve valuable resources and ensure adequate access to public beaches, recreation areas, and natural reserves. Your Committees further find that in the wake of major disasters such as the 2023 Maui wildfires, which destroyed much of Lahaina, these measures can needlessly delay the rebuilding and reconstruction of previously existing lawfully constructed structures.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the specification that the disaster that damaged or destroyed the original structure was caused by wildfire, hurricane, flooding, tsunami, or earthquake;
- (2) Specifying that "development" also does not include reconstruction of a structure that was damaged or destroyed by a disaster declared pursuant to federal law;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Water & Land and Public Safety that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1296, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1296, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Water & Land: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

Public Safety: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1261 Water & Land on S.B. No. 1456

The purpose of this measure is to amend the definition of "beach restoration" to expand the types of activities the State recognizes as restorative and beneficial to beach lands in response to increasing threats of sea level rise and beach loss.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of Climate Change Sustainability and Resiliency of the City and County of Honolulu; and numerous individuals.

Prior to the hearing on this measure, your Committee posted and made available for public review a proposed H.D. 1, which added two appropriations for a sand restoration and dune replenishment pilot project to be undertaken seaward of certain parcels on the island of Maui.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the proposed H.D. 1 from the University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program; Coastal Research Collaborative; Association of Apartment Owners of Hololani; Waikiki Beach Special Improvement District Association; Valley Isle Resort; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Maui Luxury Realty LLC; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to the proposed H.D. 1 from one individual. Your Committee received comments on the proposed H.D. 1 from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Maui Nui Resiliency Hui; Lāhainā Strong; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that according to the State Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission's 2022 report, Hawaii is projected to likely experience between 3.9 and 5.9 feet of sea level rise by the year 2100. Your Committee further finds that the State has an affirmative duty to preserve beaches as a public trust resource for the people of Hawaii. However, the existing definition of "beach restoration" is limited to the placement of sand on a beach from an outside source. Your Committee believes that broadening the definition of "beach restoration" to include other restorative activities, such as dune restoration and the removal of derelict structures, will enable the State to support a full suite of nature-based activities proven to enhance the public trust, promote resilience, and encourage community engagement.

Your Committee further finds that much of the Kahana Bay shoreline, which has been identified as an appropriate location for a sand restoration and dune replenishment pilot project in the proposed H.D. 1, has been severely depleted and many of the shoreline parcels are relying on emergency sandbag walls to protect the condominiums built on these parcels. Your Committee believes that these beaches would benefit from a beach nourishment program, which would restore lost coastline and protect existing residential structures from the threat of further coastal erosion.

Your Committee has amended this measure by adopting the proposed H.D. 1 and further amending the measure by:

- (1) Amending its preamble;
- (2) Clarifying that one appropriation in this measure is for a Kahana Bay beach restoration pilot project and:
 - (A) Amending the tax map keys identifying the area in which the Kahana Bay beach restoration pilot project will occur;
 - (B) Prohibiting the Kahana Bay beach restoration pilot project to include the creation of any t-groins;
 - (C) Requiring the Department of Land and Natural Resources to consult with the Army Corps of Engineers regarding a path forward for the Kahana Bay beach restoration project; and
 - (D) Specifying that any funds appropriated will be paid for by twenty-five percent from state general revenues, twenty-five percent from the County of Maui, and fifty percent from residents living or owning property in or between the identified tax map keys;
- (3) Prohibiting the sand restoration and dune replenishment pilot project seaward of Hanakao Park to include the construction of any t-groins and specifying that any funds appropriated will be paid for by twenty-five percent from state general revenues, twenty-five percent from the County of Maui, and fifty percent from residents living or owning property in the area surrounding Hanakao Park;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1456, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1456, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1262 Water & Land on S.B. No. 1170

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the director of a county planning department to issue a special management area use permit to an applicant that is redeveloping permanent affordable multi-family rental housing that has been substantially destroyed as the result of certain types of disasters that have been proclaimed by the Governor to constitute a state of emergency, under certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Maui Chamber of Commerce; KCOM Corp.; Pacific Commercial Realty Corp.; Hale Mahaolu; Lāhainā Strong; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the approval of a special management area use permit is a lengthy process that can take up to a year to complete. Your Committee further finds that, in the wake of major disasters such as the 2023 Maui wildfires that destroyed much of Lahaina, there is often a pressing need to quickly rebuild affordable housing to allow displaced residents to return to the area. Granting the director of a county planning department the discretion to issue special management area use permits in these cases will greatly reduce delays in the reconstruction and redevelopment of affordable housing and aid in disaster recovery.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring county planning departments to prioritize approving permits for the redevelopment of permanent affordable multi-family rental housing;
- (2) Clarifying that for experimental and demonstration housing projects that have been substantially destroyed:
 - (A) Any initiating project ordinance passed by the county remains in effect; and
 - (B) The director of a county planning department may amend or modify the final plans and specifications of an experimental and demonstration housing project to incorporate best industry practices and standards, with certain restrictions;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1170, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1170, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Housing.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1263 Water & Land on S.B. No. 657

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to establish and operate the Center for Climate Resilient Development within the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Health; School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa; Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency of the City and County of Honolulu; Makakilo/Kapolei/Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board No. 34; Ulupono Initiative; Hawaii Climate Change and Health Working Group; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Coalition Earth; Hawai'i Farmers Union; and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that there is a lack of climate resilient development capacity in the State. Your Committee further finds that the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology (SOEST) at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa has a proven expertise in climate modeling, and many state laws and policies, such as mandatory disclosures in real estate transactions of residential real property lying within a sea level rise exposure area, depend on the data collected and modeled by SOEST. However, funding for SOEST is largely through federal grants, which can be subject to the influence of changing national priorities. Your Committee believes that investing directly in scientific resources by establishing a Center for Climate Resilient Development will ensure important climate science data is preserved and that SOEST's important research activities will continue.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$3,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 657, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 657, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Higher Education.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1264 Water & Land on S.B. No. 1099

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Land Use Commission to designate lands as Important Agricultural Lands if a county fails to identify and recommend Important Agricultural Lands by December 31, 2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Land Use Commission and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture and Hawai'i Farm Bureau.

Your Committee finds that there is a need to support and maintain a strategic agricultural land resource base that can support diverse agricultural activities and opportunities in the State. One means of supporting agriculture in the State is through the designation of Important Agricultural Lands. To facilitate and expedite the designation of Important Agricultural Lands, this measure creates a deadline by which counties may identify and recommend certain lands for designation as Important Agricultural Lands and, in any county that fails to do so, allows the Land Use Commission to designate certain lands as Important Agricultural Lands and adopt maps for those designated lands.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Land Use Commission may designate county or state lands as Important Agricultural Lands in counties that fail to identify and recommend Important Agricultural Lands by December 31, 2027;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1099, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1099, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto, Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1265 Water & Land on S.B. No. 1221

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit counties from permitting or allowing retention and detention ponds to be constructed, except under certain conditions;
- (2) Creating safety requirements for retention and detention ponds in the State and a program for monitoring and inspecting retention and detention ponds for compliance with the safety requirements; and
- (3) Requiring the Department of Land and Natural Resources to conduct a survey of existing retention and detention ponds statewide.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Waikiki Neighborhood Board; Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition; Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawai'i Community Development Authority; and Hunt Development Group, LLC.

Your Committee finds that drowning is the number one cause of death for children between the ages of one and fifteen in the State. Your Committee further finds that retention and detention ponds, while essential for stormwater management, pose serious risks to public health and safety due to their potential for sudden water level changes and deep standing water. Improperly maintained and unregulated retention and detention ponds are particularly dangerous for young children, who are unaware of the risks these ponds pose. Your Committee believes that regulating the construction and permitting of retention and detention ponds, including the establishment of minimum safety standards, will help save the lives of our keiki and is necessary to ensure the health and safety of all residents and visitors.

Your Committee notes that during decision making, your Committee inadvertently announced that it intended to replace the contents of this measure with the contents of H.B. No. 1232 (Regular Session of 2025), which is the companion to this measure but did not receive a hearing in the House. However, your Committee intended to replace the contents of this measure with the contents of H.B. No. 1233, H.D. 2 (Regular Session of 2025), a substantially similar measure that was previously passed by your Committee.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting its contents and inserting the contents of H.B. No. 1233, H.D. 2, a measure that:
 - (A) Requires the counties to adopt ordinances to regulate retention and detention ponds, including establishing a permitting process for the construction of new ponds and safety standards for ponds;
 - (B) Requires the counties to conduct a survey of existing retention and detention ponds statewide and submit a report to the Legislature; and
 - (C) Appropriates funds as a grant-in-aid to the counties for these purposes;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1221, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1221, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1266 Water & Land on S.B. No. 739

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow the Governor to negotiate land exchanges consistent with and in furtherance of the State's agricultural housing needs and purposes; and
- (2) Require the Governor to submit a report to the Legislature of the negotiated land exchanges for final approval.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Agribusiness Development Corporation; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Food+Policy; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Your Committee finds that the State's agricultural production is insufficient to meet the State's food consumption needs. Your Committee further finds that privately held lands that were formerly used for pineapple and sugar cane are currently lying fallow and may be prime candidates for land exchanges for urban public lands that are suitable for affordable housing, workforce housing, or other types of housing inventory to assist the State in addressing its pressing housing and agricultural needs.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Subjecting any land exchanges negotiated by the Governor to approval from the Board of Land and Natural Resources;
- (2) Clarifying that lands undergoing the development entitlement process and on which substantial state funds have been expended shall not be considered priority lands for a land exchange;
- (3) Requiring private lands obtained in a land exchange to assume the ceded or public land trust character of the state lands for which they were exchanged;
- (4) Requiring a restrictive covenant or reversionary interest in favor of the State that requires the land to be used for the development of affordable housing, workforce housing, or other housing inventory to be attached to the deed of any state land transferred to a private party as part of a land exchange;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 739, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 739, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 1 (Iwamoto). Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1267 Energy & Environmental Protection/Economic Development & Technology on S.B. No. 1269

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the exploration and identification of geothermal resources and commercial viability for utility-scale geothermal production.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Ulupono Initiative; Life of the Land; Hawaiian Electric; Coalition Earth; Waikā Consulting, LLC; Innovations Development Group; and seven individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hulu Mamo Hawaiian Civic Club and numerous individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from Sustainable Energy Hawai'i and three individuals.

Your Committees find that geothermal energy presents a stable and viable alternative to biofuels, with significant potential for more utility-scale development on Hawaii island. Additional funding is necessary to support ongoing geothermal exploration, commercial viability assessments, and community outreach to ensure strategic and effective geothermal resource development. This measure advances geothermal energy exploration and facilitates large-scale geothermal power station development.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that funds shall not be used for drilling purposes, including exploratory, test, or production wells, or within a fifteen-mile radius of an existing geothermal power plant that is currently providing electricity to the grid;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committees respectfully request your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$6,000,000.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and Economic Development & Technology that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1269, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1269, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Energy & Environmental Protection: Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

Economic Development & Technology: Ayes, 6; Ayes with Reservations (Hussey). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Holt).

SCRep. 1268 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.B. No. 897

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Wildfire Liability Trust Fund;
- (2) Authorize securitization for electric utilities;
- (3) Clarify the authority of the Hawaii Electricity Reliability Administrator over the collection and recovery of costs under the Hawaii Electricity Reliability Surcharge; and
- (4) Require the Public Utilities Commission to establish standards that require each electric utility company to remove from the rate base a commensurate amount of costs related to fossil fuel resources when adding new or converted firm renewable energy sources.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Ulupono Initiative; AES Hawai'i; Plus Power; Sustainable Energy Hawai'i; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260; Par Hawaii; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Hawaiian

Electric; Clearway Energy Group; Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii; and Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Regional Council of Carpenters and Hawaii Association for Justice. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of the Governor; Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of the Attorney General; Public Utilities Commission; Hawaii Insurers Council; Life of the Land; Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative; Hawaiian Telcom; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and Charter Communications.

Your Committee finds that the risk of wildfires has increased due to climate change and that there is a need to ensure that proper financing mechanisms are in place to mitigate the economic impact of wildfires on public utilities and ratepayers. Your Committee recognizes the financial burden being placed on ratepayers as drafted in the S.D. 3 version of this measure.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the Wildfire Liability Trust Fund and establishing a limit on aggregate liability for economic damages from catastrophic wildfires;
- (2) Amending the authorization of securitization, limiting it to the costs of implementation of wildfire mitigation plans and other investments in infrastructure improvements, modernization, and replacements needed to reduce risk and increase reliability and resiliency;
- (3) Deleting language related to the Hawaii Electricity Reliability Administrator and renewable portfolio standards;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 897, S.D. 3, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 897, S.D. 3, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committees on Consumer Protection & Commerce and Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1269 Housing/Transportation on S.B. No. 1669

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Transit-Oriented Community Improvement Partnership and Community Improvement Revolving Fund for purposes of developing and implementing transit-oriented community development; and
- (2) Appropriates funds for the establishment and operation of the Transit-Oriented Community Improvement Partnership and establishment of various positions.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation Commission; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; The American Institute of Architects, Hawaii State Council, Legislative Advocacy Committee; Hawai'i Bicycling League; Church of the Crossroads; Trees for Honolulu's Future; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Stanford Carr Development, LLC; and four individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Budget and Finance; Hawaii State Energy Office; and Office of Planning & Sustainable Development.

Your Committees find that Hawaii's high cost of living, driven largely by the rising expenses of housing and transportation, continues to strain families and communities across the State. Housing projects are becoming prohibitively expensive due to added costs associated with parking and amenities. This measure will encourage transit-oriented development, thereby reducing transportation expenses and lowering overall living costs of residents.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring twenty percent of parking stalls developed under this measure to be electric vehicle-ready and defining "electric vehicle-ready";
- (2) Amending the membership of the Board of Directors of the Transit-Oriented Community Improvement Partnership to include an individual with history and expertise in urban planning and building design or architecture as a licensed architect;
- (3) Clarifying that the Speaker of the House of Representatives is to appoint two individuals with history and expertise in community-based economic development;
- (4) Changing the Community Improvement Revolving Fund to the Community Improvement Special Fund, to be established with the State treasury, and making associated conforming amendments;
- (5) Establishing standards for grants awarded under this measure;
- (6) Requiring the Transit-Oriented Community Improvement Partnership to coordinate with all relevant State permitting and regulatory agencies and programs;
- (7) Clarifying that one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) position is for a planner or licensed architect; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committees respectfully request your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$150,000 to fund the establishment and operation of the Transit-Oriented Community Improvement Partnership and \$400,000 for the establishment of four full-time equivalent (4.0 FTE) positions.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Housing and Transportation that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1669, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1669, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Housing: Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

Transportation: Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 1270 Housing/Transportation on S.B. No. 662

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation and City and County of Honolulu to enter into an agreement to complete the transfer of the roads within the Villages of Kapolei to the City and County of Honolulu by January 1, 2026; and

(2) Authorize county police officers to enforce the Statewide Traffic Code on all public streets, roadways, and highways within the State.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Office of the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu; Free Access Coalition; and numerous individuals.

Your Committees find that the transfer of roads within the Villages of Kapolei to the City and County of Honolulu has been delayed for years due to the City and County of Honolulu establishing certain requirements to accept the dedication of the roads. While this delay has left many residents of the Villages of Kapolei uncertain regarding who is responsible for maintenance, repairs, and overall infrastructure management, your Committees believe that legislation requiring this transfer may be unnecessary. Rather, your Committees request for the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation and City and County of Honolulu to work together to come to a solution.

Accordingly, your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have required the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation and City and County of Honolulu to enter into an agreement to complete the transfer of the roads within the Villages of Kapolei to the City and County of Honolulu; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Housing and Transportation that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 662, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 662, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Housing: Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

Transportation: Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 1271 Housing on S.B. No. 414

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to institute proceedings to condemn certain lands in Lahaina to build a new access road from Keawe Street to the Kilohana and Kalaiola sites developed in the Villages of Leialii; and
- (2) Appropriate funds out of the Major Disaster Fund for the appraisals and other preparations necessary to institute the condemnation proceedings.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; and Maui Chamber of Commerce.

Your Committee finds that improved infrastructure is essential to supporting the long-term redevelopment of Lahaina following the 2023 Maui wildfires. Establishing a new access road from Keawe Street to the new rental housing projects at the Kilohana and Kalaiola sites will ensure safe and efficient transportation for future residents and facilitate the development of permanent housing. This measure enables the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to acquire the necessary land and proceed with road construction, enhancing connectivity and community resilience in West Maui.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$250,000 to initiate the condemnation proceedings required to fulfill the intent of this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 414, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 414, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Public Safety.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1272 Housing on S.B. No. 332

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit sellers of foreclosed homes in a nonjudicial foreclosure from bundling properties at a public sale for sale to a single buyer and require each foreclosed home to be sold separately; and
- (2) Allow tenants, families, city and state government, affordable housing nonprofits, and community land trusts forty-five days to match or beat the best public sale bid to buy the property.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Lāhāina Strong; Lahaina Community Land Trust; Northwest Community Land Trust Coalition; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that the foreclosure moratorium for borrowers with Federal Housing Administration-insured mortgages on Maui expired on January 1, 2025. This measure ensures that foreclosed properties must have individual property auctions and cannot be bundled together, which allows residents to have a greater chance to submit competitive offers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 332, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 332, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1273 Housing on S.B. No. 66

The purpose of this measure is to require counties to grant building permits for single-family and multi-family projects within sixty days if the completed application is stamped and certified by a licensed engineer and architect that all plans and specifications are compliant with applicable building codes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters; NAIOP Hawaii; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Hawai'i YIMBY; Building Industry Association of Hawaii; Hawaii Food Industry Association; and two individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu; Lāhāina Strong; Hawaii's Thousand Friends; Pele Lani Farm LLC; and one individual.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; County of Hawai'i Department of Public Works; and American Institute of Architects, Hawaii State Council, Legislative Advocacy Committee.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's prolonged building permit approval process significantly hinders housing development and contributes to high costs and delays. Establishing a streamlined permit process that shifts code compliance responsibility to licensed design professionals will reduce bureaucratic obstacles while maintaining safety and regulatory standards. This measure will help expedite the construction of much needed housing and address the State's ongoing housing shortage.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that a permit, rather than only a building permit, for certain single-family or multi-family projects shall be issued within sixty days of the filing of a complete application that contains plans and specifications in compliance with all relevant codes and standards of the respective county and removing the requirement that the application be stamped by an engineer and architect;
- (2) Clarifying that the completed application must include a statement from the relevant permitting agency regarding the presence of adequate infrastructure capacity to service the project site;
- (3) Requiring the counties to ensure that a project is in compliance with historic preservation requirements;
- (4) Clarifying that noncompliance with state or county regulations, rather than a county's discretionary approvals, may delay the county's issuance of a building permit;
- (5) Broadening the sixty day automatic approval timeline to include approval by the applicable permitting agency, not just the county;
- (6) Authorizing the counties to establish rules; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 66, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 66, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1274 Housing on S.B. No. 1002

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources, through the State Historic Preservation Division, to contract with third-party consultants under certain conditions for its review of proposed state projects involving affordable housing and also for projects affecting historic properties;
- (2) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to publish proposed rules regarding third-party consultants on its website and later present proposed final rules to the Board of Land and Natural Resources; and
- (3) Appropriate funds to the State Historic Preservation Division for the recruitment and retention of qualified third-party consultants to expedite review of proposed state affordable housing projects and affordable housing projects affecting historic properties.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; NAIOP Hawaii; and Grassroot Institute of Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee finds that the historic preservation review process is in need of streamlining to improve the timeliness of its reviews and decisions. By allowing the State Historic Preservation Division to contract with third-party consultants, this measure aims to expedite project reviews while maintaining the State's commitment to historic and cultural preservation.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Department of Land and Natural Resources shall retain a third-party consultant when a project proponent submits an application requesting a third-party consultant;
- (2) Specifying that, as part of the Department of Land and Natural Resource's initial evaluation of a proposed project, the Department must determine whether a qualified third-party consultant is available to conduct the review of a project;
- (3) Excluding projects utilizing federal funds from the option to request a third-party consultant;
- (4) Clarifying that the Department of Land and Natural Resources shall retain a third-party consultant for historic property reviews within sixty days of receiving a completed application for a state project;
- (5) Prohibiting the retention of a third-party consultant to review a project that the third-party consultant or their employer has previously been involved with in any capacity;
- (6) Authorizing the Department of Land and Natural Resources to terminate a third-party consultant contract under certain circumstances;
- (7) Requiring project proponents to pay for the full cost, rather than the reasonable fee requirements, of the third-party review;
- (8) Inserting a sunset date of July 1, 2032; and
- (9) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$100,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1002, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1002, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1275 Housing on S.B. No. 1263

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Create a process for expediting the review of majority residential mixed-use transit-oriented development or residential transit-oriented development on certain parcels within county-designated transit-oriented development zones that have a low risk of affecting historically significant resources;
- (2) Further empower lead agencies, including county agencies, to make determinations on the potential effects of a project;
- (3) Create a ninety-day or thirty-day limit, as applicable, for the Department of Land and Natural Resources to concur or not concur with project effect determinations; and
- (4) Ensure that projects with written concurrence are exempt from further review unless there is a change to the project.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Holomua Initiative; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Hawai'i YIMBY; and NAIOP Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; and Hawaii Community Development Authority.

Your Committee finds that there is an urgent need for more housing development throughout the State, especially in transit-oriented areas. Your Committee acknowledges that preserving Hawaii's cultural heritage in historic properties and burial sites is essential to the State's identity and history. Efforts to streamline the historic property review processes for residential transit-oriented development in areas with low risk to historically significant resources are therefore needed to empower agencies to ensure cultural preservation and enable timely housing construction.

Your Committee further finds that the companion to this measure, H.B. No. 738, H.D. 2 (Regular Session of 2025), a substantially similar measure, was previously passed by your Committee.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting its contents and inserting the contents of H.B. No. 738, H.D. 2, a measure that:
 - (A) Creates a process for expediting the review of majority-residential mixed-use transit-oriented development or residential transit-oriented development on certain parcels within county-designated transit-oriented development zones that have a low risk of affecting historically significant resources;
 - (B) Authorizes lead agencies, including county governments, to make determinations on the potential effects of a project;
 - (C) Creates a ninety-day limit, or thirty-calendar-day limit if no historic properties are affected, for the Department of Land and Natural Resources to concur or not concur with project effect determinations;
 - (D) Exempts projects with written concurrence from further review unless there is a change to the project or additional historic properties, aviation artifacts, or burial sites are identified within the project area;
 - (E) Establishes notice and reporting requirements if there is a change to the project or additional historic properties, aviation artifacts, or burial sites are identified within the project area after the initial written concurrence; and
 - (F) Contains an effective date of July 1, 3000;
- (2) Amending the definition of "majority-residential mixed-use transit-oriented development";
- (3) Deleting language that would have required agencies to provide the entirety of the project scope, project area, construction phases, and timelines for programmatic agreements;
- (4) Requiring counties and the Hawaii Community Development Authority to identify and provide to the Department of Land and Natural Resources certain rights-of-ways, in addition to parcels, where majority-residential mixed-use transit-oriented development, residential transit-oriented development, or infrastructure is specifically consistent with a comprehensive general plan and making conforming amendments;
- (5) Requiring the assessment about whether the development on a parcel or right-of-way affects historic property, aviation artifacts, or a burial site to include on consultation with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the relevant Island Burial Councils; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1263, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1263, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1276 Housing on S.B. No. 26

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Affordable Housing Land Inventory Task Force (Task Force) to update the Affordable Rental Housing Report and Ten-Year Plan maps, tier tables, and inventories of state lands suitable and available for affordable housing development.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Land Use Commission; and Office of Housing and Community Development of the County of Hawai'i. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Planning & Sustainable Development and Hawai'i Community Development Authority.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii is facing a severe shortage of affordable housing, exacerbated by rising demand and limited land availability for new development. With the growing population and increasing housing costs, there is an urgent need to identify and utilize existing state-owned lands for affordable housing projects. This measure is intended to help assess suitable lands that would be viable development locations, which will be a useful tool for the development of new affordable housing inventory throughout the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Placing the Task Force in the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development rather than the Hawaii Community Development Authority and making associated conforming amendments;
- (2) Removing certain members from the Task Force;
- (3) Amending the responsibilities of the Task Force;
- (4) Specifying that the study to assess the viability of housing development in certain areas is subject to legislative appropriation;
- (5) Extending the due date for the report to the Legislature to be twenty days before the convening of the Regular Session of 2027;
- (6) Changing the dissolution date of the Task Force to January 1, 2027; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$500,000 to fund staff positions and contractual services necessary for the work of the Task Force.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 26, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 26, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1277 Human Services & Homelessness on S.B. No. 1028

The purpose of this measure is to allow community service in place of the assessment of any fines, fees, or court costs against a person who was adjudicated for a traffic-related offense committed while the person was a minor under the age of eighteen, or against the minor's parent or guardian.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Hawai'i Juvenile Justice State Advisory Council; American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i; Debt Free Justice Hawai'i; Community Alliance on Prisons; Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i; 'Ekolu Mea Nui; Nā 'Ōpio Waiwai; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that charging fines and fees to youth in the justice system is an ineffective and harmful practice that disproportionately impacts Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander minors. Studies show that these financial penalties place undue burdens on families, forcing difficult choices between paying court costs and meeting basic living needs. This measure allows courts to impose community service instead of financial penalties against certain violators for traffic-related offenses, ensuring accountability without creating long-term financial hardship for youth and their families.

Your Committee also finds that H.B. 129, H.D. 2 (Regular Session of 2025), a substantively similar measure, was previously passed by your Committee. Your Committee believes that H.B. 129, H.D. 2 is preferable, as it modifies the penalty sections of various areas of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, in addition to the traffic-related offenses sections amended by this measure.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by deleting its contents and inserting the contents of H.B. 129, H.D. 2, a measure that:

- (1) Prohibits the assessment of any fees, fines, or court costs against a person who is adjudicated for an offense committed while the person was a minor under the age of eighteen, or against the person's parent or guardian, and discharges all related debt obligations assessed before the effective date of the measure;
- (2) Limits court-ordered community service for a minor to no more than seventy-two hours;
- (3) Repeals certain penalties imposed on parents, guardians, or other persons associated with unaccompanied children in streets and unmarried minors in dance halls; and
- (4) Includes an effective date of July 1, 3000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1028, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1028, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, 2 (Alcos, Garcia). Excused, none.

SCRep. 1278 Higher Education on S.B. No. 865

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a permanent educational support associate position within the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience's Kona Cooperative Extension and Applied Research Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa; Island Harvest Inc.; Bea's Knees Farm, LLC; HC Farms LLC; Hawaii Coffee Association; Hawaii Coffee Growers Association; Maui Coffee Association; Kau Coffee Growers Cooperative; Hala Tree LLC; Ahualoa Family Farms; Heavenly Hawaiian Farms; Rusty's Hawaiian; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaiian Goodness LLC; Kauai Coffee Company LLC; Mahilani Partners LLC; Hawai'i Tropical Fruit Growers; South Kona Estate; Food+ Policy; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Kona Cooperative Extension, which houses the Kona Research Station, provides crucial support for local coffee farmers statewide, who currently face dire threats to their crops from the recently discovered coffee berry borer and from coffee leaf rust. Your Committee believes that additional assistance through the establishment of an additional position is needed to help the Kona Cooperative Extension in supporting the coffee industry throughout the State.

Your Committee notes that the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa stated in its testimony that it would be advantageous to have an extension agent position rather than an administrative, professional, and technical staff position.

Your Committee has accordingly amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the preamble;

- (2) Clarifying that the appropriation is for the establishment of one full-time equivalent permanent extension agent position, rather than an educational support associate position;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 865, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 865, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Amato, Olds, Sayama).

SCRep. 1279 Higher Education on S.B. No. 119

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the establishment of a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program at the University of Hawaii Maui College.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawai'i State Center for Nursing; Hawai'i Nurses Association – OPEIU Local 50; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawai'i Public Health Association; Hawai'i – American Nurses Association; AlohaCare; and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that the State is experiencing a growing nursing workforce shortage. Your Committee further finds that Maui County is the largest county in Hawaii without a college or university Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program. Your Committee believes that appropriating funds to establish a Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program at the University of Hawaii Maui College will increase the supply of nursing graduates, reduce the nursing workforce shortage, and allow Maui nursing students to remain on Maui during their entire course of study.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 119, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 119, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Olds, Sayama).

SCRep. 1280 Higher Education on S.B. No. 1487

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii to issue revenue bonds and appropriate funds out of the revenue bond proceeds to finance qualifying priority capital improvement projects of the University of Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that authorizing the University of Hawaii to issue revenue bonds will help address the University's capital facility needs, including the construction of new projects and the renovation, modernization, and major repair of existing facilities, including for faculty and student housing, additional classrooms, laboratories, offices, research facilities, utility facilities, libraries, student support facilities, athletic facilities, and other infrastructure requirements.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1487, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1487, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Muraoka). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Olds, Sayama).

SCRep. 1281 Education on S.B. No. 1388

The purpose of this measure is to add two ex officio voting members that represent the Department of Education and Board of Education to the School Facilities Authority Board.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Board of Education and Department of Education. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the School Facilities Authority.

Your Committee finds that while the School Facilities Authority is responsible for overseeing the development and construction of public school facilities throughout the State, the Department of Education plays an important role in ensuring that these projects align with the needs of students, educators, and school operations. Additionally, the Board of Education provides policy oversight for the Department of Education. This measure improves coordination in the planning and development of school facilities by adding two members, one from the Department of Education and one from the Board of Education, to the School Facilities Authority Board.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the two ex officio members being added to the School Facilities Authority Board shall be nonvoting members;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1388, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1388, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

SCRep. 1282 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 1547

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist Aloun Kauai Farming LLC, in the planning, design, construction, and maintenance of an integrated dairy industry.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Farm Bureau; The Maritime Group; Ulupono Initiative; and Aloun Farms. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Surfrider Foundation, Kauai Chapter; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Animal Rights Hawai'i; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's dairy industry has dwindled over time, forcing the State to depend heavily on imported milk and dairy products. This dependence increases vulnerability to market price shifts and disruptions in the supply chain, posing risks to food security and economic resilience. This measure seeks to counter these issues by authorizing the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to support Aloun Kauai Farming LLC, in establishing a sustainable dairy sector and expanding local dairy production.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the purpose of the special purpose revenue bonds authorized to be issued to Aloun Kauai Farming LLC;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1547, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1547, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1283 Public Safety on S.B. No. 1377

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Veterans Cemeteries Board within the Office of Veterans Services of the Department of Defense to provide veterans cemeteries in the State with guidance, education, technical assistance, and other support to ensure compliance with standards set by the National Cemetery Administration of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Veterans Services and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the final resting places of eligible veterans, active-duty servicemembers, and their eligible family members should reflect Hawaii's appreciation and gratitude for their service and sacrifice to the State and nation. Your Committee further finds that a Veterans Cemeteries Board would provide oversight and support to the counties in maintaining veterans cemeteries to meet federal standards.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1377, S.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Ichiyama, Woodson).

SCRep. 1284 Public Safety on S.B. No. 1382

The purpose of this measure is to specify that intentionally or knowingly causing bodily injury to a National Guard member who is engaged in the performance of duty is a class C felony.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i National Guard; Honolulu Police Department; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that National Guard members serve and protect their communities in times of crisis, such as natural disasters and other emergencies. Your Committee further finds that this measure establishes an essential legal safeguard to protect National Guard members as they carry out their duties.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1382 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Ichiyama, Woodson).

SCRep. 1285 Higher Education on S.B. No. 1502

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the University of Hawaii to hire faculty at the College of Social Sciences at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and the Business Administration Program at the University of Hawaii-West Oahu's campus for workforce development in the State's defense sector.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; Hawaii Military Affairs Council; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State offers a unique opportunity for job growth and economic development, especially in the defense sector, through its important geographic location. During fiscal year 2022, the State received almost \$9,000,000,000 in defense spending. Additionally, from fiscal years 2018 to 2022, defense-related jobs increased by about ten thousand. Many of these jobs are in the areas of information technology, cybersecurity, intelligence, and data science, providing good-paying jobs for the State's local economy. Your Committee further finds that providing funds to the College of Social Sciences at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and the Business Administration Program at the University of Hawaii-West Oahu campus to hire additional faculty positions will help the State meet the growing demand for jobs in the defense sector.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the number of positions to be funded to an unspecified number;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider appropriating funds for the following:

- (1) The establishment of:
 - (A) Two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) assistant professors in international economics, trade, and security;
 - (B) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) professor of practice in intelligence studies;
 - (C) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) educational specialist; and
 - (D) One half-time equivalent (0.5 FTE) graduate research assistant,
 in the College of Social Sciences at the University of Hawaii at Manoa for workforce development in the defense sector of the State's economy; and
- (2) The establishment of:
 - (A) One half-time equivalent (0.5 FTE) faculty for the Director of the Cybersecurity Coordination Center; and
 - (B) One half-time equivalent (0.5 FTE) faculty for the Director of the Cybersecurity Research Laboratory,
 for the business administration program at the University of Hawaii-West Oahu campus for workforce development in the defense sector of the State's economy.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1502, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1502, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (La Chica, Olds, Woodson).

SCRep. 1286 Public Safety on S.B. No. 88

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the payment of allowances for TRICARE, TRICARE Dental Program, and vision coverage to all officers, warrant officers, and enlisted personnel of the Hawaii National Guard ordered to active duty for more than thirty days.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i National Guard and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that some Hawaii National Guard servicemembers lose healthcare coverage from their civilian employers when they are required to take an indefinite leave of absence for active-duty military service. Your Committee further finds that the medical, dental, and vision coverage authorized by this measure will ensure that servicemembers and their families' access to health care is maintained when the servicemembers are called to serve on state active duty for more than thirty days.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 88 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Ichiyama, Woodson).

SCRep. 1287 Human Services & Homelessness/Public Safety on S.B. No. 951

The purpose of this measure is to require:

- (1) Mandatory reports of child abuse or neglect to include the military status of the child's parent or guardian, if known; and
- (2) The Department of Human Services to inform the appropriate authority of the United States military when, upon receiving a report of child abuse or neglect, there is sufficient information to determine that the report involves a military family.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the United States Department of Defense; Military and Community Relations Office of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Hawaii Military Affairs Council; and seven individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committees find that while the United States Department of Defense mandates its personnel to report suspected cases of child abuse or neglect to military officials, local authorities, and local child welfare services offices, the Department of Human Services' Child Welfare Services Branch is not legally required to reciprocate this reporting when incidents involve military families. Given that many service members and their families live off-base and frequently relocate, instances of abuse or neglect may go unreported to military authorities, limiting access to crucial support services. This measure establishes a statutory requirement for the Department of Human Services to notify the United States Department of Defense of allegations involving military families, thereby ensuring that military children receive the necessary intervention, prevention, and rehabilitative services.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date of section 2 of this measure to July 1, 2025, rather than June 30, 2025, to avoid potential technical issues made to certain statutory language as a result of Act 147, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committees note that the Department of Human Services supports an effective date of January 1, 2026, for this measure.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Human Services & Homelessness and Public Safety that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 951, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 951, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Human Services & Homelessness: Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Takayama, Alcos, Garcia).

Public Safety: Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Hashem, Ichiyama, Lamosao, Woodson).

SCRep. 1288 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.B. No. 1341

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Add the promotion of critical infrastructure protection and emergency management, response, and recovery to the relevant purposes of the Energy Data Collection Program; and
- (2) Authorize the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security to examine the energy information statements submitted pursuant to the Energy Industry Information Reporting Act.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Law Enforcement; and Hawaii State Energy Office.

Your Committee finds that the State must safeguard its critical infrastructure and ensure that in times of crisis, all relevant departments are equipped with the information needed to anticipate risks, coordinate emergency response efforts, and ensure continuity of essential services. This measure adds the promotion of critical infrastructure protection and emergency response and recovery to the purposes of the Energy Data Collection Program and authorizes the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security to examine energy information statements, thereby strengthening the State's ability to safeguard its energy infrastructure and the resilience and responsiveness of the State's energy supply.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1341 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1289 Economic Development & Technology on S.B. No. 1343

The purpose of this measure is to amend the minimum quorum and voting requirements for the Small Business Regulatory Review Board to conduct its business and validate its actions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and Small Business Regulatory Review Board.

Your Committee finds that existing law entitles the Small Business Regulatory Review Board to eleven members, thereby requiring six members to constitute a quorum to do business. By lowering the number of members required to achieve quorum by one, this measure maintains the integrity of the Board while allowing it to function with less interruption in the event of vacancies, all to the benefit of Hawaii's small businesses.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that quorum will consist of Board members who are appointed and confirmed, rather than members that are currently serving; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1343, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1343, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Holt).

SCRep. 1290 Economic Development & Technology on S.B. No. 1589

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require all gifts or grants from a private source collected by the Stadium Authority to be used only for infrastructure related to the stadium and costs associated with the development of the stadium;
- (2) Require any condition imposed by the Legislature on an appropriation to the Stadium Development Special Fund to be met before expenditure;
- (3) Require any unexpended and unencumbered funds in the Stadium Development Special Fund to immediately lapse to the general fund if the project is terminated; and
- (4) Appropriate funds out of the Stadium Development Special Fund with certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Stadium Authority.

Your Committee finds that the State should ensure proper fiscal management and oversight of the Stadium Development Special Fund. This measure requires any unexpended and unencumbered funds in the Stadium Development Special Fund to immediately lapse to the General Fund and appropriates funds out of the Stadium Development Special Fund with certain conditions.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the requirement that any condition imposed by the Legislature on an appropriation to the Stadium Development Special Fund be met before expenditure;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1589, S.D. 3, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1589, S.D. 3, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Holt).

SCRep. 1291 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 121

The purpose of this measure is to propose an amendment to article VI, section 3, of the Hawaii State Constitution to allow the Senate sixty days during certain times of the year in which to consider and act on the appointments of justices and judges.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary.

Your Committee finds that by extending the Senate's review period for judicial appointments from thirty to sixty days for appointments made between April 1 and December 31, it will reduce the number of special sessions required for confirmations, thereby improving efficiency and reducing costs.

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 S.B. No. 121 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 2 (Garcia, Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1292 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 264

The purpose of this measure is to establish the amount of compensation for private-sector examiners who evaluate a criminal defendant's penal responsibility or fitness to proceed in a legal case.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Department of Health; Hawai'i Psychological Association; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the fee paid to private-sector examiners, who evaluate a criminal defendant's penal responsibility or fitness to proceed, has not been increased since approximately 2008 when it was raised from \$500 (with additional fees outlined for out-of-court work and testimony) to \$1,000 with no allocation of funds for out-of-court work or testimony. Due to the low rate of pay, several former certified examiners no longer accept appointments from the First Circuit Court.

Your Committee further finds that there are currently only six examiners willing to accept court appointments from the First Circuit. For the last six months, these six examiners have had over nine examinations per month. As a result, some examiners have asked the court to cap their monthly appointments or requested extensions so that they can complete their examinations and reports. This measure will attract more private-sector examiners - reducing delays that cause defendants to spend more time in custody and enabling the courts to meet its constitutional and statutory obligations.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$975,000.

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 S.B. No. 264, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1293 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 336

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Declare that the State has a duty to defend professionally licensed or certified state employees from civil actions when the employee's actions were within the scope of employment and were not grossly negligent or wanton, as long as the employee is cooperating with the State's defense;
- (2) Clarify that professionally licensed or certified state employees may employ their own attorneys at their own expense;
- (3) Require the Attorney General to work with the professionally licensed or certified state employee to amicably transfer representation to the successor counsel chosen by the employee if the State declines to defend the employee from a civil action on certain grounds; and
- (4) Require the Attorney General to file a confidential motion to withdraw as counsel if the Attorney General and professionally licensed or certified state employee cannot amicably transfer representation to the successor counsel.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; and Hawaii Association for Justice.

Your Committee finds that this measure would further strengthen the legal protections for governmental employees when exercising their professional judgment, which will enable the State to attract and retain qualified employees who may otherwise fear that they would be held personally and financially liable.

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 S.B. No. 336 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1294 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 428

The purpose of this measure is to increase the fees, including fees for travel expenses, paid to witnesses in civil and criminal trials.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Department of Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; and League of Women Voters of Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that witness compensation has never been raised from \$4. Your Committee recognizes that witnesses are essential participants in civil and criminal cases and believes that an increase in compensation is justified and timely.

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 S.B. No. 428 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1295 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 253

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require condominium association budget summaries to include all required information without referring the reader to other portions of the budget or reserve study;
- (2) Provide that the defense of good faith compliance is unavailable to any condominium association whose board adopts a budget that omits the required detailed budget summary; and
- (3) Provide that a unit owner has standing to enforce a board's compliance with the statutory provisions relating to a condominium association's budget, if the board failed to substantially comply with those provisions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Hawaii First Realty; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Palehua Townhouse Association; Honolulu Tower AOA; Hawaii Council of Community Associations; AOA Lakeview Sands; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Legislature has recently passed laws to increase transparency and accuracy with respect to condominium association replacement reserves and reserve studies. Your Committee further finds that additional effort is needed to ensure that condominium associations are complying with these new laws. Accordingly, this measure is intended to increase condominium association compliance with recent disclosure requirements associated with reserve studies and budget summaries.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 253, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 253, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Ichiyama, Lowen).

SCRep. 1296 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 1367

The purpose of this measure is to make clarifying amendments to the installment loans law, including:

- (1) Using defined terms consistently;
- (2) Requiring lenders to prorate fees on a daily basis;
- (3) Allowing lenders to charge a convenience fee for debit card payments;
- (4) Requiring paper receipts only for in-person or cash payments and removing the requirement that receipts not contain the consumer's name; and
- (5) Repealing the cool down period between loans.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committee finds that the existing installment loan law allows lenders writing loan contracts to fully capture the maximum monthly maintenance fees even if the lender provides service for only a portion of the month. This measure will require lenders to prorate the monthly fees daily.

Your Committee further finds that the existing installment loan law requires a three-day waiting period between loans. The original intent for the three-day waiting period was so that borrowers would not be in a continuous cycle of debt by repaying the loan and borrowing again on the same day. However, unlike payday loans, which the installment loan law replaced, installment loans are gradually paid down through a series of payments. The repeal of the waiting period will allow consumers on the neighbor islands, which only have access to one or two lenders, to have more access to financial services.

Your Committee notes that this measure, as received by your Committee, authorizes an installment lender to charge a \$5 convenience fee on debit card transactions. The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, in following up on inquiries posed by your Committee at the public hearing, stated that the typical processing fee for a debit card transaction of \$100 would be approximately \$0.25.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Correcting the daily factor when computing the \$25 monthly fee for a fraction of a month from 0.83 cents per day to 83 cents per day;
- (2) Lowering the allowable convenience fee for debit card transactions from \$5 to \$1;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion;
- (4) Inserting a three-year sunset date of June 30, 2028; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1367, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1367, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Ichiyama, Lowen).

SCRep. 1297 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 102

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit third-party restaurant reservation services from listing, advertising, promoting, or selling restaurant reservations without the express consent of the restaurant, enforceable through a private cause of action for civil remedies.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Restaurant Association; Booking Holdings, Inc.; and OpenTable.

Your Committee finds that many restaurants partner with third-party restaurant reservation services to provide consumers with the convenience of planning dining experiences in advance. Your Committee further finds that reservation piracy – where third parties use predatory computer bots to make and sell

reservations to consumers at high costs – have occurred in other jurisdictions. This practice negatively impacts restaurants by increasing the likelihood of no-shows and negatively impacts consumers by increasing the costs of the dining experience without increasing the value. This measure prohibits the practice of rendering reservation services without the express consent of the restaurant to render such services.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 102, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 102, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Ichiyama, Lowen).

SCRep. 1298 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 1044

The purpose of this measure is to be a stop-gap measure that enables the provision of insurance for condominium associations that are unable to purchase adequate property insurance for their respective condominium buildings by:

- (1) Enabling the Hawaii Property Insurance Association and the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund to underwrite certain insurance risks that no standard insurer is currently willing to underwrite;
- (2) Establishing a Condominium Loan Program and the Condominium Loan Program Special Fund to fund essential repairs and deferred maintenance by condominium associations, and appropriating funds for this purpose;
- (3) Appropriating funds as a loan to the Hawaii Property Insurance Association; and
- (4) Requiring the Insurance Commissioner to conduct a study to monitor the existing market and identify the most effective methods of stabilizing the property insurance market in the State, and appropriating funds for this purpose.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority; Waikiki Neighborhood Board; AARP Hawai'i; Hawaii Insurers Council; Mortgage Bankers Association of Hawaii; Hawaii Financial Services Association; Hawaii Bankers Association; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; and four individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of Budget and Finance; Board of Directors of the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund; State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company; National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies; Hawaii Property Insurance Association; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the availability of condominium building master insurance policy and unit owner insurance policy options within the condominium insurance marketplace was shrinking, even before the August 2023 Maui wildfire event. For condominium building master insurance policies, insurers have increased deductible amounts from what used to be between \$10,000 to \$25,000 per unit, per occurrence, to as much as \$250,000. Furthermore, insurance premiums for hurricane insurance policies have recently risen so high that three hundred seventy-five to three hundred ninety buildings have opted to renew their hurricane insurance policies with less than one hundred percent hurricane coverage. This measure expands the markets of last resort in the State to assist the stabilization of the property insurance market until risks can be depopulated back to the standard insurance market when market conditions improve and risks become more insurable because of building component replacement or maintenance, or mitigation equipment or protocols have been implemented for fire, wildfire, or hurricane events.

Your Committee further finds that the companion to this measure, H.B. No. 426, H.D. 1 (Regular Session of 2025), was previously passed by your Committee.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting its contents and inserting the contents of H.B. No. 426, H.D. 1, a measure that:
 - (A) Authorizes the Hawaii Property Insurance Association and Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund to underwrite certain insurance risks that no standard insurer is currently willing to underwrite;
 - (B) Appropriates general revenues as a loan to the Hawaii Property Insurance Association for administrative and startup costs, minimum solvency costs, and the purchase of reinsurance;
 - (C) Requires the Insurance Commissioner to conduct a study to identify the most effective methods of stabilizing the property insurance market in the State, and appropriating funds for this purpose; and
 - (D) Takes effect July 1, 3000;
- (2) Clarifying the assessments issued by the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund for which property and casualty insurers may recoup;
- (3) Authorizing the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund to loan funds to the Hawaii Property Insurance Association;
- (4) Authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds and appropriating funds from the revenues derived from the general obligation bonds for purposes of loaning funds to the Hawaii Property Insurance Association by way of the Hurricane Reserve Trust Fund; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1044, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1044, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Ichiyama, Lowen).

SCRep. 1299 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 1373

The purpose of this measure is to require, for certain professions, the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and licensing boards to automatically revoke and refuse to renew, restore, or reinstate the professional licenses, registrations, or certifications of registered sex offenders.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Board of Psychology; Board of Physical Therapy; Board of Naturopathic Medicine; Board of Chiropractic; Board of Dentistry; Board of Massage Therapy; Board of Nursing; Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology; Board of Optometry; Board of Barbering and Cosmetology; Hawaii Medical Board; Board of Acupuncture; Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women; Honolulu Police Department; RAINN; Hawaii Dental Association; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that under existing law, persons subject to administrative disciplinary actions are afforded a notice and an opportunity for a hearing. However, in instances where the person of interest has been convicted of a sexual offense, the delay in imposing a disciplinary action, including the revocation of a professional license, registration, or certification, places the public at serious risk. This measure promotes consumer protection by requiring the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and certain licensing boards to automatically revoke and refuse to renew, restore, or reinstate the professional licenses, registrations, or certifications of registered sex offenders.

Your Committee further finds that the companion to this measure, H.B. 1054, H.D. 1 (Regular Session of 2025), was previously passed by your Committee.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting its contents and inserting the contents of H.B. 1054, H.D. 1, a measure that:
 - (A) Requires the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and certain licensing boards to automatically revoke and refuse to renew, restore, or reinstate a license, registration, or certification if the person either committed an offense that would be punishable as an offense described under the sex offender registration laws or is required to register as a sex offender;
 - (B) Provides a licensee, registrant, or certification holder with an opportunity for a hearing on the adverse action;
 - (C) Specifies that final orders of discipline are matters of public record;
 - (D) Prohibits the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs or licensing board, as appropriate, from restoring, renewing, or reinstating a license, registration, or certification in a case where the person has been required to register as a sex offender and the victim of the covered offense was a patient or client or a former patient or client; and
 - (E) Takes effect on July 1, 3000; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1373, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1373, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Ichiyama, Lowen).

SCRep. 1300 Culture & Arts on S.B. No. 1581

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Hawaii-Japan Peace Monument; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the planning, design, and construction of the Hawaii-Japan Peace Monument.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.

Your Committee finds that 2025 marks the eightieth anniversary of the end of World War II, a pivotal moment that had a lasting impact on Hawaii and Japan for the roles they had in the war. However, throughout the last eight decades, Hawaii and Japan have dedicated themselves to spreading peace throughout the Pacific and building a strong bond of friendship, demonstrating to future generations that peace between former enemies is achievable. The establishment of a Hawaii-Japan Peace Monument symbolizes the journey toward friendship and commemorates the efforts made by Hawaii and Japan to reach a peaceful and diplomatic relationship.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1581, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1581, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garrett).

SCRep. 1301 Culture & Arts on S.B. No. 441

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Designate the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra as the "State of Hawaii Symphony Orchestra"; and
- (2) Exempt state funds received by the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra from the requirements of chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from ABC Stores; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; Kamuela Philharmonic Orchestra Society; Raffle Brain Institute; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra; Hawaii Youth Symphony; IATSE Local 665; Ballet Hawaii; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; State Foundation on Culture and the Arts; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra plays a vital public role for the State's residents and visitors through its musical contributions and performances, which provide cultural and artistic enrichment to the community. Through its diverse programming, educational outreach, and community engagement, the Hawaii State Orchestra fosters a deep appreciation for the arts and provides opportunities for people of all ages to experience the transformative power of music. Your Committee believes that the Hawaii State Orchestra fulfills an important public purpose and that the funding provided by this measure would enable the Orchestra to uphold its high standards of artistic excellence, expand its educational initiatives, and reach more members of the community.

Your Committee further believes that the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra served and continues to serve a public purpose and that granting authorization to the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra to receive appropriations of state funds, exempt from the requirements of chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, complies with the public purpose requirement of Article VII, section 4, of the Hawaii State Constitution.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting legislative findings in the preamble that the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra serves a public purpose and that granting authorization to the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra to receive appropriations of state funds, exempt from the requirements of chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, complies with the public purpose requirement of Article VII, section 4, of the Hawaii State Constitution;
- (2) Inserting legislative findings in the preamble about the historic and public impact the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra has had in the State;
- (3) Adding, as a purpose of the appropriation for general operating costs, additional support to increase access on the neighbor islands to music and educational opportunities;
- (4) Inserting an appropriation of an unspecified amount to the State of Hawaii Endowment Fund;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 441, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 441, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garrett).

SCRep. 1302 Transportation on S.B. No. 1473

The purpose of this measure is to amend the transfer of funds for central service expenses from the State Highway Fund, Airport Revenue Fund, and Harbor Special Fund by:

- (1) Limiting the deduction of all receipts and deposits into the funds to 2.5 percent or an unspecified dollar amount, whichever is less; and
- (2) By September 30, 2025, creating a process to deduct additional amounts based on the Consumer Price Index.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that a set percentage is deducted from the State Highway Fund, Airport Revenue Fund, and Harbor Special Fund, but there is no way to know in advance how much will be available to pay for central service expenses. This measure provides certainty by setting an amount that will be deducted from each fund while also addressing increases in the cost of government services due to inflation by allowing for additional deductions from each fund based on the Consumer Price Index.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider limiting the base deductions to \$5,000,000, as requested by the Department of Transportation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1473, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1473, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1303 Transportation on S.B. No. 1008

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal the requirement that a public or private entity that provides a parking space for persons with disabilities comply with laws governing parking for disabled persons, including any penalties; and
- (2) Authorize each county to adopt ordinances to enforce the accessible parking space requirements for parking spaces reserved for persons with disabilities and electric vehicles.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one member of the Maui County Council; Climate Protectors Hawaii; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Retail Merchants of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the improper use and lack of enforcement of parking spaces reserved for persons with disabilities hinders access for individuals who rely on these spaces for mobility and independence. Similarly, the unauthorized use of electric vehicle charging spaces by non-electric vehicles disrupts transportation for electric vehicle users and undermines the State's efforts to promote sustainable transportation. This measure empowers counties to adopt ordinances enforcing accessibility and electric vehicle parking requirements, ensuring compliance with established standards and maintaining unimpeded access for program participants.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1008, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1008, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1304 Transportation on S.B. No. 312

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit a state or county-owned vehicle purchased on or after January 1, 2028, from using an audible reverse warning system that emits a warning sound other than one using broadband technology.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the excessive noise pollution caused by tonal reversing alarms on commercial and construction vehicles disrupts urban environments, while their limited effectiveness in preventing workplace accidents raises safety concerns. Studies have shown that broadband reversing alarms provide a more effective and targeted warning system, reducing workplace fatalities and environmental noise. This measure ensures safer worksites and quieter communities by requiring state and county-owned vehicles purchased after January 1, 2028, to be equipped with broadband reversing alarms.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the purpose section;
- (2) Authorizing the Director of Transportation to grant exemptions for a state or county agency that has demonstrated a good faith effort, to be determined by the Director, to implement a broadband warning system but cannot due to unavailability;
- (3) Requiring the Director of Transportation to maintain a continuously updated and publicly available record of all exemptions granted and to submit biannual reports to the Legislature;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 312, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 312, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1305 Health on S.B. No. 1421

The purpose of this measure is to repeal the requirement that the Department of Health approve a health care provider's arrangements for the retention and preservation of patients' medical records prior to the provider ceasing operations and instead require retention and preservation to be consistent with federal and state regulations.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from The Queen's Health Systems. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that pursuant to certain federal and state regulations, as well as any applicable internal policies and procedures, health care providers and health care systems must retain and preserve medical records for a certain number of years. Your Committee further finds that, in light of these regulations, requiring a health care provider to obtain approval from the Department of Health for the provider's arrangement for the retention and preservation of patient medical records when ceasing operations is redundant. Your Committee believes that removing this requirement will provide greater flexibility and efficiency when a health care provider intends to close their practice.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring health care providers to notify patients, at the patient's last known address, of how patients can access or request copies of their medical records, rather than returning medical records to patients at their last known address;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1421, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1421, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1306 Health on S.B. No. 1443

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish maximum payment rates for medical care for patients of the Hawaii State Hospital or in the custody of the Director of Health at another psychiatric facility;
- (2) Authorize the Department of Health to establish payment rates for long-term care services for certain types of patients; and
- (3) Exempt the Department of Health from the Hawaii Public Procurement Code for the procurement of medical care for certain types of patients.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health and State Council on Mental Health.

Your Committee finds that although some aging patients at the Hawaii State Hospital (State Hospital) are psychiatrically stable, legally cleared for hospital discharge, and have long-term care needs that are more appropriate for community-based residential care than in-patient psychiatric hospitalization, no long-term care provider has agreed to take these patients at Medicaid rates. As a result, the State Hospital has become the default long-term care facility.

Your Committee further finds that when a patient at the State Hospital requires medical care outside of the State Hospital, hospital staff must perform all of the administrative work to obtain a procurement exemption, negotiate payment rates, and enter into a contract with the health care provider. When providers submit bills to the State Hospital, hospital staff must manually review the billing and codes, resulting in significant delays in payments to providers. Your Committee believes that streamlining this process by allowing the Department of Health a limited exemption from the Hawaii Public Procurement Code and

establishing payment rates for certain types of medical care will ensure timely payments to health care providers and significantly reduce administrative burden on hospital staff.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to upon approval; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1443, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1443, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1307 Health on S.B. No. 1447

The purpose of this measure is to require any cease and desist order issued by the Director of Health that is administratively appealed to remain in effect during the appeals process.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that existing law authorizes the Director of Health to issue cease and desist orders to certain state-licensed facilities due to concerns regarding patient health and safety. Your Committee further finds that to ensure the personal safety of patients at these facilities, it is necessary to clarify that these cease and desist orders remain in place during the administrative appeal process, which may take weeks or months.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1447 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1308 Health on S.B. No. 1448

The purpose of this measure is to make an emergency appropriation to the Department of Health to fund construction defect remediation of the Hale Ho‘ola Building at the Hawaii State Hospital, including the payment of legal fees and costs for special deputy attorneys general.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services; Department of Health; and State Council on Mental Health. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Hale Ho‘ola Building at the Hawaii State Hospital has developed significant structural issues, including water leaks and mold growth, which compromise patient care and staff safety. Despite ongoing efforts to hold the contractor accountable, remediation is urgently needed to ensure a safe and functional facility. This measure provides emergency funding to address these defects and protect the well-being of hospital patients and employees.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the expenditure ceiling language to an unspecified amount; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$10,660,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1448, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1448, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1309 Health on S.B. No. 1422

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the amount of fees collected for copies of certain records issued by the Department of Health that are deposited in the Vital Statistics Improvement Special Fund; and
- (2) Repeal the Birth Defects Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that Auditor's Report No. 21-03 found that the Birth Defects Special Fund did not meet the criteria of a special fund, in part because there was no clear link between the Hawaii Birth Defects Program and marriage license fees, and recommended its repeal. Your Committee further finds that the funds from the issuance of marriage licenses or certain other certificates issued by the Department of Health that were previously allocated to the Birth Defects Special Fund may be more appropriately allocated to the Vital Statistics Special Fund, which will support a complete overhaul of vital statistic business functions and reduce significant backlogs in fulfilling customer requests. Your Committee notes that the estimated revenue from these fees is projected to be \$625,000.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1422, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1422, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Amato). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1310 Health on S.B. No. 1433

The purpose of this measure is to improve the safety, effectiveness, and cost savings of the State's Sterile Needle and Syringe Exchange Program by amending the program based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy's model legislation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hep Free Hawaii; O'ahu Youth Action Board; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Maui AIDS Foundation; R Street Institute; and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Patriot Republicans and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that, in recognition of the dangers to public health posed by the sharing of injection equipment by injectable drug users, the Legislature passed Act 152, Sessions Laws of Hawaii 1992, which established the first state-funded Sterile Needle and Syringe Exchange Program in the United States. Your Committee further finds that a 2020 report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) concluded that syringe programs that restrict syringe distribution to a one-to-one exchange are less effective than needs-based distribution systems. The CDC found that, compared to one-to-one exchanges, needs-based syringe distributions result in less syringe sharing and reuse, lower risks of infection, and are not associated with increased unsafe syringe disposal. Your Committee believes that updating the State's strict one-to-one sterile needle and syringe limit to a needs-based distribution system will better serve the public health and improve the effectiveness of the State's Sterile Needle and Syringe Exchange Program.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1433, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1433, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Olds). Noes, 2 (Alcos, Garcia). Excused, none.

SCRep. 1311 Health on S.B. No. 1449

The purpose of this measure is to require any utilization review entity in the State to submit data relating to prior authorization of health care services to the State Health Planning and Development Agency.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Medical Association; Hawaii Society of Clinical Oncology; Association for Clinical Oncology; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Association of Health Plans and Hawaii Medical Service Association.

Your Committee finds that prior authorization was initially created in the 1980s to identify and deny payment to doctors, hospitals, and health care providers that was deemed not medically necessary or appropriate. Your Committee further finds that since then, the practice of prior authorization has been more frequently used to deny medical claims, regardless of the medical necessity or appropriateness of the prescribed medical treatment. As a result, physicians and other health care providers must expend an increasing amount of time and money to go through the process of appealing denials to ensure patients receive the necessary medical treatment they were prescribed. Your Committee additionally finds that the basis for denial of prior authorization requests varies from insurer to insurer, further increasing costs for health care providers and delaying the timely provision of appropriate health care. Your Committee believes that requiring utilization review entities to provide data to the State on prior authorization use will increase transparency of the prior authorization process across health insurers and ensure the State's health care providers are able to deliver health care services to their patients in a safe and timely manner.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language establishing a Health Care Appropriateness and Necessity Working Group to make recommendations to improve and expedite the prior authorization process;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1449, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1449, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1312 Health on S.B. No. 1042

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for the Mental Health Emerging Therapies Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Wellness and Resilience; Beyond Mental Health; Aloha Integrative Mental Health; MindWave Medicine; Clarity Project; Veteran Mental Health Leadership Coalition; Reason for Hope; Veterans Exploring Treatment Solutions; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that there are a significant number of individuals, including a disproportionate number of veterans, who suffer from treatment-resistant depression and post-traumatic stress disorder. Your Committee further finds that the United States Food and Drug Administration has granted breakthrough therapy designation to emerging treatments, including psilocybin therapy and MDMA-assisted therapy, for treatment of various mental health and behavioral health disorders including addiction, treatment-resistant depression, eating disorders, and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Your Committee believes that there is significant value in exploring the use of these emerging therapies, which have demonstrated promising results when administered in clinical settings. However, your Committee believes that establishing a pilot program, rather than the special fund proposed by this measure, may be a more appropriate mechanism to allow the State to assess the feasibility, effectiveness, and accessibility of these emerging therapies.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the substantive contents of this measure and inserting language requiring the Office of Wellness and Resilience to conduct a two-year Mental Health Emerging Therapies Pilot Program to support clinical research and the development of emerging therapies for the treatment of mental health and behavioral health disorders and report to the Legislature;
- (2) Inserting an unspecified appropriation amount for the Mental Health Emerging Therapies Pilot Program;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1042, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1042, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1313 Health on S.B. No. 1431

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish and appropriate funds for a Hepatitis Prevention Program within the Department of Health to address morbidity and mortality due to hepatitis B and C;
- (2) Require the Department of Health to develop and implement an educational program to inform the public on how to identify and prevent hepatitis and aid in its early diagnosis;
- (3) Require the Department of Health to develop a comprehensive statewide hepatitis prevention plan; and
- (4) Repeal outdated provisions related to hepatitis.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hep Free Hawaii; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; AlohaCare; and nine individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Libertarian Party of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that hepatitis infections, and particularly hepatitis B and C viral infections, are associated with earlier deaths and higher death rates in the State. Your Committee further finds that existing strategies such as universal hepatitis screening and immunization; culturally-based care coordination; and safe and effective treatments, such as the hepatitis C cure, can be used to eliminate viral hepatitis in Hawaii. Your Committee believes that providing funding and establishing positions to address all types of viral hepatitis, as proposed by this measure, will allow the State to scale up its existing work for the prevention and treatment of hepatitis in Hawaii. Your Committee notes that funding the Department of Health's efforts now is important as the current threats to federal public health funding endanger the Department's existing hepatitis elimination efforts.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$827,844.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1431, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1431, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1314 Health on S.B. No. 1434

The purpose of this measure is to establish a Universal Immunization Funding Program in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Hawai'i Academy of Family Physicians; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; AlohaCare; Hawaii Medical Association; Hawaii Medical Service Association; American Academy of Pediatrics Hawaii Chapter; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Patriot Republicans; Libertarian Party of Hawaii; Biotechnology Innovation Organization; Hawai'i Christian Coalition; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that "Universal Purchase" programs are programs that enable states to leverage bulk purchasing and federal immunization programs to establish a streamlined procurement, oversight, and distribution system for all recommended vaccines for children and adults. Your Committee further finds that the purchase of immunizations is done by the State and private health care providers or health systems. This practice requires private health care providers to take on considerable costs, as they must pay for their immunizations up front in addition to costs incurred for securing and storing the immunizations. Your Committee believes that establishing a Universal Immunization Funding Program in Hawaii will reduce the financial and administrative burden borne by private health care providers and systems and lower incidences of immunization-preventable diseases by increasing access to immunizations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Placing the new statutory language establishing the Universal Immunization Funding Program in Chapter 325, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to infectious and communicable diseases, rather than Chapter 321, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to health;
- (2) Amending the definitions of "assessed entity", "estimated adult immunization cost", and "estimated child immunization cost";
- (3) Deleting the definition of "health insurer";
- (4) Inserting definitions for "program" and "vaccines for children program";
- (5) Expanding the purpose of the Universal Immunization Funding Program to include the provision of immunizations to all individuals in the State, rather than just individuals who are ineligible to receive immunizations at no cost through other programs;

- (6) Amending the permissible sources of funding for the Universal Immunization Purchase Special Fund;
- (7) Amending the methodology used by the Director of Health to determine immunization assessment rates;
- (8) Requiring the Department of Health to audit assessed entities and providers in accordance with the reporting and compliance standards of the Universal Immunization Funding Program;
- (9) Clarifying the methodology used by the Department of Health for selecting and purchasing immunizations;
- (10) Exempting the Universal Immunization Purchase Special Fund from the transfer of special funds for central service expenses;
- (11) Clarifying that the appropriation out of the Universal Immunization Purchase Special Fund includes the purchase of immunizations as well as administrative costs for the Universal Immunization Purchase Program;
- (12) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (13) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$934,000 into the Universal Immunization Purchase Special Fund.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1434, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1434, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Olds). Noes, 2 (Alcos, Garcia). Excused, none.

SCRep. 1315 Health on S.B. No. 1441

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal the requirement to transfer the Oahu Regional Health Care System from the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to the Department of Health;
- (2) Repeal amendments to the Hawaii Revised Statutes made by Act 212, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, that relate to the transfer of the Oahu Regional Health Care System from the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to the Department of Health; and
- (3) Require the Oahu Regional Health Care System and the Department of Health enter into an agreement regarding the Oahu Regional Health Care System under certain terms and report to the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Corporate Board of Directors; and Oahu Region of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that Act 212, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021 (Act 212), required the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to transfer the Oahu Regional Health Care System (Oahu Region) to the Department of Health, in part to provide the Department of Health with additional infrastructure and resources to address the gap in the behavioral health care system between acute psychiatric care facilities and low acuity residential treatment. Your Committee further finds that the working group convened pursuant to Act 212 has determined that completing the transition of the Oahu Region to the Department of Health would come at an exceptionally high cost and would not result in additional services for the community. Your Committee believes that requiring the Department of Health and Oahu Region to enter into a formal agreement regarding care of low acuity patients in the Department of Health's custody, as proposed by this measure, is a more cost-effective option that would still ensure Leahi Hospital and Maluhia are appropriately utilized.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the Oahu Region and Department of Health shall enter into a formal memorandum of agreement for the care of certain psychiatrically stable patients transferred or discharged from the Hawaii State Hospital to an appropriate Oahu Region facility and specifying the conditions of the agreement;
- (2) Requiring the Oahu Region, rather than the Oahu Region and the Department of Health, to report to the Legislature and clarifying the contents of the report;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1441, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1441, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1316 Transportation on S.B. No. 1095

The purpose of this measure is to increase the decal size restrictions for special number plates.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that while special number plates with full-plate designs have been used to raise funds for various causes, they create administrative burdens and procurement challenges for county agencies. Expanding the allowable decal size will offer organizations greater visibility and fundraising opportunities while minimizing costs and logistical complications for the counties.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1095, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1095, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 1317 Transportation on S.B. No. 344

The purpose of this measure is to require the use of a helmet by anyone under the age of sixteen while riding a skateboard.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; AAA Hawai'i; Keiki Injury Prevention Caucus; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals.

Your Committee finds that skateboarding, while a popular recreational activity, poses significant safety risks to the head and face. Given the serious consequences of head trauma, particularly for young people, your Committee finds that the implementation of helmet requirements for skateboarders under the age of sixteen will help mitigate the risk of serious injury.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Increasing the minimum age of persons prohibited from operating a skateboard without a helmet from sixteen years of age to eighteen years of age;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 344, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 344, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 1318 Transportation on S.B. No. 30

The purpose of this measure is to require all moped drivers to wear a safety helmet.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Moped Doctors; Hawaiian Style Rentals & Sales; and seven individuals.

Your Committee finds that despite advancements in vehicle safety, operators and passengers of mopeds remain particularly vulnerable to severe injuries and fatalities due to their lack of protective barriers. Existing laws do not adequately address this heightened risk, leading to preventable deaths and life-altering head injuries. Your Committee further finds that studies consistently demonstrate the effectiveness of helmets in reducing fatalities and preventing head injuries. However, your Committee acknowledges that imposing a blanket requirement for all moped drivers to wear a helmet may be too stringent due to the varying levels of risk and context in which individuals drive mopeds.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that no person under the age of sixteen shall drive a moped in the State and no person under the age of twenty-one shall drive a moped without a helmet; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 30, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 30, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 1319 Transportation on S.B. No. 1216

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Condition the issuance of a certificate of inspection upon a vehicle not being equipped with a noisy muffler or exhaust system;
- (2) Require rules regarding safety check inspections to ensure that a motorcycle, moped, or motor vehicle is not equipped with a noisy muffler or exhaust system;
- (3) Suspend, revoke, or refuse renewal of a permit for an official inspection station upon a third or subsequent willful violation of any rule within a certain period of time regarding inspecting a noisy muffler or exhaust system;
- (4) Amend the maximum fine for certain violations of noisy muffler laws; and
- (5) Include repairing or installing a noisy muffler or exhaust system as a prohibited practice for motor vehicle repair laws.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Waikiki Neighborhood Board; and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Moped Doctors; Motorcycle Industry Council; and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that excessive vehicle noise caused by modified mufflers and exhaust systems continues to disrupt communities and pose public safety concerns. Strengthening inspection requirements and enforcement measures will ensure compliance with existing noise regulations and improve quality of life for residents. This measure enhances vehicle inspection protocols, increases penalties for violations, and holds repair shops accountable for installing non-compliant exhaust systems.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Increasing all fines relating to motor vehicle muffler violations by \$50;

- (2) Exempting motorcycles and mopeds that do not exceed United States Environmental Protection Agency regulations under title 40, Code of Federal Regulations section 205.152;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1216, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1216, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 1320 Transportation on S.B. No. 1102

The purpose of this measure is to specify the terms and appointment processes for the Chief of the Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Unit of the Airports Division of the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the existing Chief of the Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Unit is a civil service position and that conversion of this position to an appointed position would require a reclassification with the Department of Human Resources Development and consent of the exclusive representative. This measure would enhance accountability and leadership stability by allowing the Director of Transportation to appoint the Chief.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Authorizing, instead of requiring, the Director of Transportation to appoint the Chief from a list of five qualified candidates, rather than three, subject to the advice and consent of the Senate, and requiring the Director to give strong consideration and prioritize those candidates;
- (2) Specifying that no Chief shall be appointed to more than two consecutive terms;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1102, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1102, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 1321 Transportation on S.B. No. 1522

The purpose of this measure is to clarify that a transferor shall not be liable for any violation resulting from the operation of a transferred vehicle if the transferor complies with certain provisions relating to the transfer.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Customer Services of the City and County of Honolulu; National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii; Pacific Auto Action; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that when a vehicle is transferred, the transfer is not considered complete until the county receives a certificate of ownership documenting the transfer. This creates an issue when the buyer of a vehicle fails to submit the required documentation and the vehicle remains legally registered to the previous owner. As a result, the previous owner may be liable for things like parking tickets or certain infractions even though they are no longer in possession of the vehicle.

Your Committee further finds that H.B. No. 532, H.D. 1 (Regular Session of 2025), a substantially similar measure, was previously passed by your Committee.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting its contents and inserting the contents of H.B. No. 532, H.D. 1, a substantially similar measure that:
 - (A) Clarifies that proof that a transferor has filed required notice forms serves as a complete defense to any action brought against the transferor for an act or omission, civil or criminal, arising out of the use, operation, or abandonment of the vehicle by another person;
 - (B) Requires, by July 1, 2026, the courts to create new forms permitting transferors to respond to actions arising out of the use, operation, or abandonment of transferred vehicles; and
 - (C) Contains an effective date of July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Changing the date when the courts are required to create new forms for transferors to respond to actions to December 31, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1522, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1522, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, La Chica, Pierick).

SCRep. 1322 Labor on S.B. No. 1567

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Human Resources Development to conduct a comprehensive review of the classification and compensation systems for state executive agencies;
- (2) Allow the Department of Human Resources Development to contract a third-party to assist with the completion of the review; and
- (3) Appropriate funds to support the completion of the review.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development and Holomua Collaborative.

Your Committee finds that the number of vacant positions in the State was twenty-three percent in 2023, and, by 2029, thirty percent of state employees will be eligible for retirement, further increasing the vacancy rate unless the hiring rate outpaces quitting and retirement rates. Your Committee also finds that the class specifications of state positions, which establish minimum requirements, duties, responsibilities, pay grades, and levels of authority are outdated and contribute to the difficulty of filling vacancies. Your Committee further finds that high vacancy rates exacerbate certain agencies from dispensing critical public services, such as SNAP, MedQuest, and unemployment benefits. This measure seeks to reassess the qualifications and compensation packages for certain positions to improve overall retention and recruitment of qualified candidates.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Limiting the scope of this review to civil service positions under the Department of Human Resources Development's jurisdiction;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,750,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1567, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1567, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1323 Labor on S.B. No. 1503

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to facilitate and enrich the local workforce to meet the growing demand for defense-related roles by developing and implementing:
 - (A) Skills training programs;
 - (B) Public-private partnerships;
 - (C) Funding opportunities;
 - (D) Recruitment strategies; and
 - (E) Performance evaluations of the programs established by this measure; and
- (2) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism; Hawaii Military Affairs Council; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; and Chamber of Commerce Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the defense sector is the second largest economic driver in the State after tourism. By implementing comprehensive training programs, fostering public-private partnerships, creating funding opportunities, and developing recruitment strategies, the State can capitalize on its strategic geographic location and strengthen its position as a hub for defense-related industries. This measure not only addresses the immediate needs of the defense sector but also promotes sustainable economic growth by investing in the skills and capabilities of Hawaii's workforce, ensuring a strong and diversified economy for the future.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1503, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1503, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1324 Labor on S.B. No. 716

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal the statutory definitions of "registered for work" or "registration for work";
- (2) Authorize the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to allow individuals to report to a location other than an employment office, in accordance with its own rules;
- (3) Expand eligibility requirements for unemployment benefits;
- (4) Require electronic notifications of determinations or redeterminations of unemployment claims, unless the claimant elects to be notified by mail;
- (5) Remove language that limits an individual's ability to change a previously elected withholding status only once during a benefit year; and
- (6) Repeal the statutory requirement to post work availability online.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Your Committee finds that the State's unemployment system as it relates to certain requirements is inefficient and limiting for individuals who are already facing difficult circumstances. Your Committee also finds that modernizing the system can greatly improve the communication between the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and unemployed individuals who are using the system for unemployment benefits. This measure supports unemployed

individuals by expanding the qualifications to receive certain unemployment benefits and improves the overall communication between the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and individuals by including electronic methods of notification.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the definition of "registered for work" or "registration for work" rather than repealing it and restoring references to the definition;
- (2) Repealing the joint experience rating provision, which allows employers to combine accounts to be constituted as a single employer's account as it relates to contribution rates;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 716, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 716, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1325 Labor on S.B. No. 583

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Permit any public or private entity to lease the naming rights of any state-owned facility; and
- (2) Require any revenues derived from advertising or marketing in or on any state-owned facility to be deposited into the appropriate special fund of the state agency that owns the facility, or into the general fund if no special fund applies.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Stadium Authority. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Outdoor Circle. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Hawaii State Department of Education; Hawai'i Tourism Authority; and Hawaii State Public Library System.

Your Committee finds that the maintenance and operation of certain government facilities can come at a hefty price for tax payers and the State. Permitting public or private entities to lease naming rights for state facilities and using funds derived from the advertising or marketing related to the naming rights provides an additional funding source to operate and maintain these facilities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Limiting provisions that would have allowed the leasing of naming rights to any state-owned facility to the Stadium Facility, or portion thereof, and the Convention Center Facility, or portion thereof;
- (2) Specifying that the revenues generated pursuant to this measure are to be deposited into the Stadium Development Special Fund or the Convention Center Enterprise Special Fund, as appropriate;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 583, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 583, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, 1 (Reyes Oda). Excused, none.

SCRep. 1326 Labor on S.B. No. 1454

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to issue an order of wage payment violation when it finds that a violation has occurred without remedy;
- (2) Clarify the definition of "wage" to mean compensation for labor or services rendered by an employee, without regard of how the amount is calculated; and
- (3) Establish penalties for employers that commit wage payment violations.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Your Committee finds that under the existing Wage and Hour Law there is no provision for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to issue an order of wage payment violation when it finds, as a result of its own investigation, that an employer has violated the Wage and Hour Law. This measure seeks to remedy this by authorizing the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to issue orders of wage payment violations, establishing penalties, enforcement, and an appeals process, and clarifying that "wage" means compensation for labor rendered by an employee, regardless of how it was calculated, to ensure that all workers that earn any amount of compensation are protected.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1454, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1454, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1327 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 222

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Appropriate funds for the Illegal Fireworks Task Force; and
- (2) Extend the sunset date of the Illegal Fireworks Task Force from June 30, 2025, to June 30, 2030, and require additional reports to the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Honolulu Police Department; Pearl City Neighborhood Board No. 21; Hawaiian Humane Society; O'ahu County Committee of O'ahu County Democrats; and eight individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Libertarian Party of Hawaii and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Illegal Fireworks Task Force, comprised of state and federal agencies, has successfully intercepted and seized thousands of pounds of illegal fireworks. Therefore, your Committee believes that this important work should continue and be supported by the Legislature.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,265,000.

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 S.B. No. 222, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 222, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Garcia).

SCRep. 1328 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 227

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Illegal Fireworks Enforcement Division within the Department of Law Enforcement.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Hawaiian Humane Society; O'ahu County Committee of O'ahu County Democrats; and nine individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Libertarian Party of Hawaii and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that the continued illegal use and distribution of fireworks poses significant safety, environmental, and enforcement challenges across the State. Despite prior legislative efforts, unauthorized fireworks remain prevalent, necessitating a dedicated enforcement approach. This measure establishes an Illegal Fireworks Enforcement Division within the Department of Law Enforcement to enhance regulatory oversight, improve interagency coordination, and strengthen enforcement efforts, ensuring greater public safety and compliance with state laws.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Illegal Fireworks Enforcement Division has charge, direction, and control of all matters relating to the enforcement of illegal fireworks by the Department of Law Enforcement and that the Department and counties, or both, are authorized to enforce and administer the provisions of the Fireworks Control Law; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of:

- (1) \$4,647,155 to carry out the purposes of this measure, including the operation of the Illegal Fireworks Enforcement Division and reimbursement of funds to law enforcement agencies for division-related law enforcement operations; and
- (2) \$1,916,210 for the establishment of six permanent positions within the Illegal Fireworks Enforcement Division.

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 S.B. No. 227, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 227, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Garcia).

SCRep. 1329 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 311

The purpose of this measure is to propose an amendment to the Hawaii State Constitution to expressly provide that the freedom of speech protected under the Hawaii State Constitution does not include the expenditure of money to influence elections.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Pride at Work - Hawai'i; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Community Alliance on Prisons; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaii Patriot Republicans and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the influence of corporate and special interest money in elections has grown substantially following the United States Supreme Court's decisions in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* and *Buckley v. Valeo*. These rulings equated political expenditures with free speech, allowing corporations, political action committees, and other entities to spend unlimited amounts to influence elections and policy decisions. This measure seeks to propose a state constitutional amendment clarifying that the expenditure of money to influence elections is not protected speech under the Hawaii State Constitution. While the proposed amendment would not have immediate legal effect under current federal precedent, it expresses the State's opposition to these rulings and preserves the possibility of future enforcement should federal law change.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the ballot question to remove language specifying the circumstances for when the amendment to the Hawaii State Constitution would take effect;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 311, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 311, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, 2 (Garcia, Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1330 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 345

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the cap on the amount of expenditures a candidate can make in the Partial Public Financing Program;
- (2) Raise the cap on the maximum amount of matching funds available to candidates in the Partial Public Financing Program;
- (3) Increase the matching fund ratio from \$1 for each \$1 of qualifying contributions raised by a candidate to \$2 for each \$1 of qualifying contributions raised in excess of the minimum qualifying contributions that a candidate must raise to participate in the Partial Public Financing Program; and
- (4) Appropriate funds for the Hawaii Partial Public Financing Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Campaign Spending Commission; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Green Party of Hawai'i; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Our Hawai'i; Chamber of Sustainable Commerce; Common Cause Hawaii; Pride at Work – Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaii Patriot Republicans; Aloha Freedom Coalition; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that adjustments are necessary to bolster the Hawaii Partial Public Financing Program and reduce candidates' dependence on special interest groups or large donors. Your Committee further finds that the adjustments made in H.B. No. 370, H.D. 2 (Regular Session of 2025), are more suitable for achieving this objective at this time.

Your Committee has amended this measure by deleting its contents and inserting the contents of H.B. No. 370, H.D. 2, a measure that:

- (1) Increases the amount of funds available to candidates who qualify to participate in the Partial Public Financing Program, including candidates for the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, who run statewide;
- (2) Encourages participation in the Partial Public Financing Program by providing for the adjustment of the amount of minimum qualifying contributions required for certain offices;
- (3) Increases matching fund payments for excess qualifying contributions; and
- (4) Appropriates funds from the general revenues of the State to increase the amount of funds available in the Partial Public Financing Program and to permit the Campaign Spending Commission to hire more staff to address the anticipated increase in participation in the Program.

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 S.B. No. 345, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 345, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1331 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 361

The purpose of this measure is to permanently establish and appropriate funds for the Community Outreach Court as a division of the District Court of the First Circuit.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Department of Human Services; Department of Law Enforcement; State Council on Mental Health; Office of the Public Defender; Waikiki Neighborhood Board; Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i Kawaioloa; Institute for Human Services, Inc.; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that since its inception, the Community Court Outreach Project has held several court sessions across Oahu. Through these sessions, the Community Court Outreach Project has addressed more than ten thousand cases, recalled more than nine hundred bench warrants, lifted more than seven thousand driver license stoppers, and assisted more than six hundred participants with social services or referrals. This measure would further support the Community Court Outreach Project and provide much needed resources and funding to assist the Court's clients and operations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 361, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 361, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1332 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 903

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Claims Review Working Group within the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to determine the processes for calculating future claims and negotiating a subsequent settlement against the State;
- (2) Repeal the Public Land Trust Working Group established pursuant to Act 226, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, to determine the pro rata share of income and proceeds from the public land trust due annually to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for the operating expenses of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Your Committee finds that H.B. No. 1358, H.D. 3 (Regular Session of 2025), was previously passed by the House.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting its contents and inserting the contents of H.B. No. 1358, H.D. 3, a measure that appropriates funds to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for the hiring of necessary staff and the purchase of equipment and professional services on behalf of the Public Land Trust Working Group; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 903, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 903, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Garcia).

SCRep. 1333 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1032

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit foreign entities and foreign-influenced business entities from making contributions, expenditures, electioneering communications, or donations for election purposes;
- (2) Allow every business entity that contributes or expends funds in a state election to certify that the entity is not and will not be a foreign corporation or foreign-influenced business entity if the entity intends to make contributions or expenditures within an election cycle;
- (3) Specify that if the conditions that determine whether a business entity qualifies as a foreign-influenced business entity are held unconstitutional by a final judgment, including all appeals, the Campaign Spending Commission is required to establish revised conditions that are constitutional; and
- (4) Require noncandidate committees making only independent expenditures to obtain a statement of certification from each top contributor required to be listed in an advertisement avowing that none of the funds contributed were derived from a foreign corporation or foreign-influenced business entity.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Campaign Spending Commission; Free Speech For People; International Longshore & Warehouse Union Hawaii; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Green Party of Hawai'i; UNITE HERE Local 5; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Chamber of Sustainable Commerce; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that a contribution made by a foreign national, foreign corporation, or foreign-influenced business entity shall escheat to the Hawaii Election Campaign Fund;
- (2) Amending the requirements for the statement of certification from each top contributor required to be listed in an advertisement;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1032, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1032, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1334 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1316

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Judiciary to contract with a collection agency or licensed attorney to collect delinquent court-ordered fees, fines, sanctions, and court costs;
- (2) Repeal the authority of the Judiciary to contract with a collection agency or licensed attorney to collect delinquent restitution;
- (3) Expressly allow courts to specify a period of time or installments for payment of fees and restitution; and
- (4) Require district courts to hold payment compliance hearings once per year or as soon as practicable, until all fees, fines, and restitution are fully paid, and requires a defendant to appear and show cause if the defendant fails to pay in full within a time specified by the court or fails to pay three consecutive installments.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Crime Victim Compensation Commission and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary and Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that the Hawaii Supreme Court interpreted section 706-644, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to mean that courts can only hold compliance hearings for restitution payments if the defendant is on probation or defaults on payments. If the defendant is not on probation, the court cannot hold compliance hearings unless the defendant defaults, making it harder for victims to ensure they are compensated. This measure would provide victims with a clearer court procedure to enforce restitution orders and prevent them from having to pursue restitution through civil lawsuits.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that when restitution is not ordered by a court, the fines or fees are referred to a collection agency and no proof of compliance hearing is required; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1316, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1316, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1335 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1469

The purpose of this measure is to suspend the statute of limitations on certain collection activities during the period an assessment is pending on appeal before the Taxation Board of Review or Tax Appeal Court.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Taxation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that this measure ensures that the State has the opportunity to collect taxes once the appeal process is concluded, regardless of the duration of the appeal. Without this suspension, taxpayers could potentially delay or avoid tax payments by prolonging the appeal process, which could harm the State's revenue system and disrupt the fairness of tax enforcement. This measure helps maintain the integrity of tax collections while protecting the taxpayer's right to a fair review process.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1469, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1469, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Garcia).

SCRep. 1336 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1408

The purpose of this measure is to clarify that Act 130, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024 (Act 130), which amended the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act to increase the loan limit for direct loans provided by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, takes effect on either the date of the Secretary of the Interior's notification letter that Act 130 does not require congressional approval, or on the date that the United States Congress approval becomes law.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Your Committee finds that Act 130 increases the loan limit for direct loans provided by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to seventy-five percent of the maximum single residence loan amount allowed in Hawaii by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's Federal Housing Administration, rather than the fifty percent as outlined in the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920. However, Act 130 contained an error with respect to recognizing the appropriate approval procedure for its enactment. This measure corrects Act 130 to accurately reflect the necessary approval process for the enactment of laws that amend the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920.

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 S.B. No. 1408, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Garcia).

SCRep. 1337 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1202

The purpose of this measure is to allow campaign funds to be used for a candidate's child care and vital household dependent care costs under certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Campaign Spending Commission; Honolulu County Committee on the Status of Women; Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition; AAUW of Hawaii; Hawai'i State Democratic Women's Caucus; Common Cause Hawaii; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Federal Election Commission and thirty-nine states have already authorized the use of campaign funds for child care expenses. This measure would allow Hawaii to improve access to democracy by enabling parents and caregivers to campaign for public office.

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 S.B. No. 1202 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 2 (Garcia, Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1338 Education on S.B. No. 1300

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Education to adopt administrative rules to provide a lower rate or free meals to students based on their economic need; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for meal subsidies for students whose families are classified as asset-limited, income-constrained, employed households.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission; Office of the Mayor of Maui County; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Pride at Work – Hawai'i; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Healthy Eating, Active Living Coalition; Green Party of Hawai'i; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Kauai Women's Caucus; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Church State Council; Pele Lani Farm LLC, Kulia I Ka nu'u Outreach Services; Parents and Children Together; Hawai'i Foodbank; Project Vision Hawai'i; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Hawai'i Hunger Action Network; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Oahu Youth Action Board; AlohaCare; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the Department of Education. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that providing access to healthy meals for students is essential for the overall well-being of Hawaii's people. Your Committee further finds that the Department of Education currently provides free and reduced-price lunches for qualified students using federal reimbursements. However, some families are not able to qualify for the federal reimbursement despite having an economic need. This measure will provide the Department of Education with the necessary funding and support to subsidize school meals for these students.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language which would have required the Department of Education to adopt administrative rules to provide a lower rate or free meals to students based on their economic needs;
- (2) Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, requiring the Department of Education to provide free school meals to students who currently qualify for reduced-price lunch;

- (3) Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, requiring the Department of Education to provide free school meals to students whose family income is no more than three hundred percent of the federal poverty level;
- (4) Authorizing the Governor to modify the strict provisions of providing free school meals as required by this measure and report to the Legislature on any modifications;
- (5) Appropriating funds to the Department of Education to subsidize meal costs for students eligible for reduced price-meals and whose family income is no more than three hundred percent of the federal poverty level, rather than for students whose families are classified as asset limited, income constrained, employed households;
- (6) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider appropriating \$565,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 for meal subsidies for students eligible for reduced-price meals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1300, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1300, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

SCRep. 1339 Human Services & Homelessness on S.B. No. 298

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Human Services to increase funding for Medicaid in-home services.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Executive Office on Aging; Disability and Communication Access Board; AARP Hawai'i; Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that the majority of Hawaii's kupuna prefer to age in place, remaining in their own homes rather than transitioning to institutional care. Additionally, in-home services, such as assistance with daily living activities, are essential in supporting kupuna and individuals with disabilities to maintain their independence while reducing the financial burden associated with nursing facilities. However, a 2022 actuarial study revealed that Medicaid reimbursement rates for in-home care services are not keeping pace with labor market demands, leading to workforce shortages and wage pressures in the home care industry. This measure seeks to address these challenges by appropriating funds to increase Medicaid reimbursement rates for in-home services, ensuring that care providers receive adequate compensation and that more kupuna can access the support needed to safely age in their homes.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying certain findings in the preamble related to reimbursement rates for Medicaid in-home services;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 298, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 298, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1340 Human Services & Homelessness on S.B. No. 1610

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Ohana Zones Program within the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions;
- (2) Authorize the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to exempt ohana zones projects from general excise taxes; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for the Ohana Zones Program's transient temporary housing and the development and management of kauhales or semi-permanent housing to transition persons out of homelessness.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation and County of Hawai'i Office of Housing and Community Development. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Taxation; Department of Human Services; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that homelessness remains a critical issue in Hawaii, requiring innovative solutions to provide stable, transitional housing and essential services. This measure establishes the Ohana Zones Program within the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions and aims to create designated areas where homeless individuals and families can access temporary shelter, medical and social services, and pathways to permanent housing. By integrating shelter, health care, and supportive services, this measure enhances the State's capacity to break the cycle of homelessness and provide sustainable pathways to housing stability.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that Ohana Zone sites that have the ability to hook up to public utilities shall be preferred for the Ohana Zones Program, under certain conditions;
- (2) Removing the sunset date;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1610, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1610, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1341 Human Services & Homelessness on S.B. No. 1496

The purpose of this measure is to make it an unlawful discriminatory practice for a place of public accommodation to deny a person with a disability full and equal enjoyment of, or information related to, their goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations using information and community technology intended for use by the general public.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities; State Health Planning and Development Agency; Disability and Communication Access Board; Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council; National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii; and seven individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that the digital era has transformed how businesses and service providers interact with customers, with websites and mobile applications now serving as primary platforms for reservations, orders, sales, and access to essential information. Your Committee further finds that equitable access to these digital platforms is critical to ensuring that all individuals, including those with disabilities, can fully benefit from the goods, services, and amenities offered by places of public accommodation. While state and federal laws prohibit discrimination in public accommodations based on disability, clearer guidelines are needed to support businesses in implementing accessible electronic services. This measure seeks to address these challenges by explicitly prohibiting places of public accommodation from restricting access to goods, services, and information through digital platforms, ensuring that persons with disabilities receive full and equal access in the modern information landscape.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1496, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1496, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1342 Human Services & Homelessness on S.B. No. 1419

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Update the name of the Neighbor Islands Blind and Visually Impaired Service Pilot Program by replacing the term "visually impaired" with the term "low vision"; and
- (2) Clarify the Pilot Program's implementation timeframes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services; Disability and Communication Access Board; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that individuals who are blind or have low vision, particularly those residing on the neighbor islands, continue to face challenges in accessing necessary services. To address these disparities, Act 253, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, established the Neighbor Islands Blind and Visually Impaired Service Pilot Program within the Department of Human Services. This measure updates the Pilot Program's name to incorporate the more inclusive term "low vision" and clarifies the timeline for the Pilot Program's implementation. By advancing these changes, this Act strengthens the State's commitment to expanding services that promote independence and improve the quality of life for blind and low vision individuals in Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Replacing references to "visually impaired" with the term "low vision" in the preamble of Act 253, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1419, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1419, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1343 Economic Development & Technology on S.B. No. 1278

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Exempt Restaurant Revitalization Fund grants received by eligible businesses pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 from the state general excise tax; and
- (2) Require any state general excise taxes paid by eligible businesses for Restaurant Revitalization Fund grants to be refunded to the taxpayer.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Restaurant Association; Maui Brewing Company Restaurants; Maui Brewing Restaurant Group; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Luana Hospitality Group; Giovanni Pastrami Restaurant Group; MJ Food Group Inc.; Shorefyre/Skybox; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; La Tour Cafe; Maui Brewing Co.; Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen; Hilo Bay Cafe; 604 Hospitality Group LLC; Roy's Hawaii (Roy's Restaurant, Goen, Eating House 1849, Humble Market Kitchen); Highway Inn; Cheeseburger Restaurants; Makai Grinds LLC; L&L Hawaiian Barbecue; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the COVID-19 pandemic heavily impacted the restaurant industry through mandated closures, seating limitations, and increased operational costs. Your Committee recognizes that restaurants have not fully recovered from the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and that there is a need to alleviate the tax burden placed on restaurants that received certain federal grants, loans, and loan advances.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Department of Taxation to notify all taxpayers eligible for refunds of any state general excise tax paid for Restaurant Revitalization Fund grants of their eligibility and require taxpayers to file refund claims no later than six months following notification;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1278, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1278, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Holt).

SCRep. 1344 Economic Development & Technology on S.B. No. 989

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Appropriate funds to the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation to assist small businesses with technology enablement; and
- (2) Require the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation to submit a report to the Legislature on the status of assisting technology enablement for small businesses related to the tourism sector.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Nalu Scientific, LLC; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; SSFM International; KO'OLAU Distillery; Ai.Fish; Ten Tomorrow; Blue Startups, LLC; Referentia Systems; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation is well-positioned to provide small businesses with access to modern digital tools and technology, helping businesses reduce costs and remain competitive. Your Committee recognizes that small businesses in the State also need support navigating certain permitting processes, which can be cumbersome and can subject businesses to lengthy waiting periods.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation to also use the appropriated funds to develop project management software to simplify the facilitated application process for small businesses;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$600,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 989, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 989, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Holt).

SCRep. 1345 Economic Development & Technology on S.B. No. 1578

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the official designation of the East-West Center as the Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange between East and West, Inc., and exempt state fund appropriations to the East-West Center from chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (2) Rename the Hawaii Sister-State Committee to the Hawaii Sister-State and International Partnerships Commission and amends its functions and membership;
- (3) Require the Office of International Affairs to provide support to the Hawaii Sister-State and International Partnerships Commission;
- (4) Expand the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism's authority to establish out-of-state offices to include out-of-state facilities to support sister-state or province partnerships and other partnerships that promote and enrich the people, cultures, environments, and economies of the State and its international partners, generate revenue for the State, and buy property; and
- (5) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; and East-West Center. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's international relationships have been instrumental in fostering economic growth, cultural exchange, and educational opportunities. This measure strengthens the State's commitment to global partnerships and empowers the East-West Center and state agencies to play a greater role in maintaining and leveraging these relationships for the long-term prosperity of Hawaii's residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Providing more context in the preamble regarding the East-West Center's history and public benefit that warrants its public financing going forward;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1578, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1578, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Holt).

SCRep. 1346 Housing on S.B. No. 602

The purpose of this measure is to provide conditions under which all parcels under the jurisdiction of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority and authority offices and facilities may be closed to the public so that trespassing violations may be prosecuted as criminal trespass in the second degree.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

Your Committee finds that incidents arise on Hawaii Public Housing Authority property due to the presence of uninvited individuals. This measure clarifies the conditions under which Hawaii Public Housing Authority properties may be closed to the public to protect the well-being of its tenants and staff and provide a safer living environment for public housing tenants and the surrounding community.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 602 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1347 Housing on S.B. No. 1229

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Extend the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund Equity Pilot Program to June 30, 2030; and
- (2) Require Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to give a preference to for-sale housing development projects that are developed under governmental assistance programs approved by the Corporation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; one member of the Maui County Council; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Stanford Carr Development, LLC; Castle & Cooke Homes Hawaii, Inc.; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund plays a critical role in financing housing development and addressing Hawaii's severe housing shortage. The expansion of the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund Equity Pilot Program ensures greater access to for-sale housing for local residents, particularly those in high-demand professions. This measure will support long-term housing stability while maintaining the Revolving Fund's sustainability.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1229, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1229, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1348 Housing on S.B. No. 572

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Add loan funds administered by Nonprofit Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) for certain for-sale affordable housing projects to the list of loan priorities for the Affordable Homeownership Revolving Fund; and
- (2) Expand the use of Affordable Homeownership Revolving Fund monies to allow financing as matching funds for CDFIs to mobilize other funding sources.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Hawaii Habitat for Humanity Association; and Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement.

Your Committee finds that CDFIs use public funds to attract private capital with the goal of increasing affordable housing and economic development in the community. This measure helps more CDFIs access additional capital from federal, private, and philanthropic sources, which will amplify the impact of the Affordable Homeownership Revolving Fund and ensure broader financial support for projects serving low- and moderate-income families, in alignment with the State's commitment to increasing affordable housing availability.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 572, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 572, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1349 Housing on S.B. No. 771

The purpose of this measure is to remove the restrictions on who may serve as the Chairperson of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation Board of Directors.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Your Committee finds that the governance structure of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation should provide flexibility in leadership selection to ensure effective oversight and decision-making. This measure allows the Board of Directors of the Corporation to choose the most qualified member to lead, regardless of their designation.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 771, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 771, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1350 Housing on S.B. No. 40

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to utilize revenue bonds when securing a line of credit or other instrument of indebtedness for the Bond Volume Cap Recycling Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Your Committee finds that a line of credit is needed for private activity bond recycling to provide liquidity and ensure that funds are readily available to pay off existing bonds as they mature or are redeemed. The line of credit acts as a financial bridge, maintaining continuity in funding and avoiding disruptions in the financing structure, which is critical for compliance with federal law for qualified bonds. This measure will allow the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to retire old bonds while waiting for new bonds to be issued or for cash flows from the underlying projects to become available.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 40, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 40, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1351 Housing on S.B. No. 71

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Rename the Rental Housing Revolving Fund to the State Housing Revolving Fund;
- (2) Clarify the prioritization of, and eligibility and preference criteria for, projects that may be funded by, State Housing Revolving Fund monies; and
- (3) Require the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to establish an application process for fund allocation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Church of the Crossroads; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; NAIOP Hawaii; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Hawai'i YIMBY; and Holomua Collaborative.

Your Committee finds that, as currently drafted, this measure would significantly reduce critical funding sources for the Rental Housing Revolving Fund, threatening the viability of deeply affordable housing projects that serve households making thirty percent of the area median income, many of whom are on the verge of homelessness. These cuts would severely limit the State's ability to provide stable housing for its most vulnerable residents, increasing the risk of displacement and homelessness. Your Committee believes that ensuring continued investment in affordable housing is essential to keeping residents in secure environments that foster stability and economic mobility.

Your Committee further finds that this measure would disproportionately benefit high-income households—those earning between one hundred twenty percent and one hundred forty percent of the area median income—while failing to address the pressing housing needs of those earning between thirty percent and one hundred twenty percent of the area median income. The current structure of this measure would not only neglect those most in need but would also deepen disparities in housing availability, exacerbating the challenges faced by low- and moderate-income families.

Your Committee has reaffirmed its position regarding the Rental Housing Revolving Fund through H.B. No. 432, H.D. 1, a measure previously passed by the House that:

- (1) Establishes the Mixed-Income Subaccount within the Rental Housing Revolving Fund that targets workforce rental housing projects for persons and families with incomes at or below one hundred forty percent of the area median income;
- (2) Authorizes the Director of Finance to transfer funds from the Rental Housing Revolving Fund into the Mixed-Income Subaccount;
- (3) Appropriates funds into and out of the Mixed-Income Subaccount; and
- (4) Takes effect on July 1, 3000.

Your Committee believes that H.B. 432, H.D. 1, offers a more effective solution to address the State's ongoing housing crisis and best leverage the financing potential of the Rental Housing Revolving Fund by supporting individuals and families who earn too much to qualify for traditional forms of assistance, but not enough to purchase a house at market value, such as essential workers such as teachers, first responders, and those in blue-collar professions.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting its contents and inserting the contents of H.B. No. 432, H.D. 1; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$75,000,000 for each year of the fiscal biennium.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 71, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 71, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1352 Housing on S.B. No. 826

The purpose of this measure is to exclude state departments and agencies from eligibility for the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Hawaii Public Housing Authority; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that under this measure as currently drafted, the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) would be unavailable for projects where the development, planning, or construction is done by any state department or agency, including the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation. However, your Committee notes that it is unclear as to whether the exclusion in this measure applies to projects where state agencies act as co-developers with private entities and whether this would apply to projects where state funds are utilized in conjunction with LIHTC, such as the use of the Rental Housing Revolving Fund. Your Committee believes that maintaining the State's ability to utilize the LIHTC is necessary to address the lack of affordable housing in the State.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Reverting to the contents of this measure as it was introduced, which specifies that the School Facilities Authority is not eligible as a housing developer for purposes of the LIHTC; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 826, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 826, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1353 Housing on S.B. No. 801

The purpose of this measure is to require managing agents of residential condominium properties with more than one hundred units located in a county with a population greater than five hundred thousand, to possess a community association manager credential form from a recognized nationwide community association management industry trade group.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Hawaii First Realty; and six individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Real Estate Commission; Hawaiiana Management Company, Ltd.; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Community Associations Institute, Hawaii Chapter, Legislative Action Committee.

Your Committee finds that the existing qualifications for managing agents of residential properties, particularly in larger condominium buildings, are insufficient to protect associations of apartment owners from the risks associated with inadequate property management expertise. This measure requires that managing agents of residential properties with more than one hundred units in certain counties be certified community association managers, ensuring that these individuals possess the necessary qualifications and experience to effectively manage complex properties and protect the interests of unit owners.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 801, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 801, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1354 Housing on S.B. No. 31

The purpose of this measure is to authorize a person who discovers a recorded discriminatory restrictive covenant on real property to take certain actions, without liability, to invalidate the covenant.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Uniform Law Commission.

Your Committee finds that discriminatory restrictive covenants, which limit housing opportunities based on race, sex, sexual orientation, and other protected characteristics, perpetuate inequality and hinder fair access to housing. This measure seeks to rectify past injustices by invalidating these covenants, providing a clear process for their identification, and ensuring that real property records reflect the values of justice and equal protection under the law.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 31, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 31, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1355 Housing on S.B. No. 942

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit a landlord from rejecting a rental application solely due to an applicant's inability to provide a recent paycheck under certain circumstances.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from AARP Hawai'i and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Association of REALTORS.

Your Committee finds that retirees, the self-employed, and those with alternative income sources such as pensions, savings, or investments may have difficulty providing a paystub to prove sufficient income to pay rent. This measure ensures landlords can still assess a tenant's financial capability by allowing

verification of unearned income or liquid assets, striking a balance between protecting tenants from unnecessary discrimination and safeguarding landlords' ability to evaluate financial stability.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that a landlord may require evidence dated within ninety days, rather than thirty days, of the date of the application of rent; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests that your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, should it deliberate on this matter, engage with stakeholders to assess whether a ninety-day requirement provides a sufficient and equitable timeframe for the landlord and applicant, ensuring that the interests of both parties are fairly represented.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 942, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 942, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1356 Housing on S.B. No. 576

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Exempt expenditures from the Public Housing Special Fund from appropriation and allotment by the Legislature, subject to certain requirements;
- (2) Amend the required contents of legislative reports to be submitted by the Hawaii Public Housing Authority and Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; and
- (3) Amend the scope of monies to be deposited into and the purposes of the Public Housing Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that the Hawaii Public Housing Authority is one of only two statewide housing authorities in the nation that directly administers public housing units in addition to other federal and state housing programs. Your Committee acknowledges the Hawaii Public Housing Authority's mission to create opportunities that promote economic empowerment, build inclusive and thriving communities, and break the cycle of concentrated poverty and understands the need for financial flexibility to ensure that the Authority meets this mission. However, your Committee notes the concerns raised by the Department of the Attorney General, that the exemption of Public Housing Special Fund expenditures from legislative appropriation proposed by this measure conflicts with Article VII, section 5, of the Hawaii State Constitution, which prohibits public monies from being expended except pursuant to appropriations made by law.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have exempted expenditures from the Public Housing Special Fund from appropriation and allotment by the Legislature; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 576, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 576, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1357 Housing on S.B. No. 944

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Until July 1, 2030, authorize a partner or member in a partnership or limited liability company that has been allocated a Low-Income Housing Tax Credit to further allocate the credit or transfer, sell, or assign up to one hundred percent of the Tax Credit, under certain conditions; and
- (2) Extend the sunset date of Act 129, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016, which established a different rate for the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit, until December 31, 2032.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; American Council of Life Insurers; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; NAIOP Hawaii; and Sugar Creek Capital. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the expansion of the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program is vital to addressing the ongoing shortage of affordable housing in the State. Your Committee believes that expanding the pool of investors for state tax credits will enhance the ability of affordable housing developers to raise equity efficiently, thereby leading to faster project funding, less reliance on other financing sources, and enhanced affordability for residents.

Your Committee further finds that H.B. 949, H.D. 1 (Regular Session of 2025), a substantially similar measure that was previously passed by your Committee, is a measure that:

- (1) Clarifies that a partner or member that is a partnership or limited liability company that has been allocated a Low-Income Housing Tax Credit may either further allocate the credit or transfer, sell, or assign all or a portion of the credit to any taxpayer;
- (2) Extends the sunset date of Act 129, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016, relating to the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit, until December 31, 2032; and
- (3) Takes effect July 1, 3000.

Your Committee has amended this measure by deleting its contents and inserting the contents of H.B. No. 949, H.D. 1, with the exception of the conforming amendment that was made to Act 226, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 944, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 944, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1358 Housing on S.B. No. 378

The purpose of this measure is to establish a working group to identify existing mixed-use developments in the county of Maui that could be acquired by the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation for use as affordable housing and commercial rental leases.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; one member of the Maui County Council; and Maui Chamber of Commerce.

Your Committee finds that repurposing existing commercial buildings into mixed-use developments presents a valuable opportunity to address Maui's housing crisis while supporting local businesses. Historically, mixed-use communities have contributed to economic vitality and social cohesion, and their redevelopment can provide much-needed affordable housing while maintaining commercial spaces.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the working group chairperson shall be the Chairperson of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation Board of Directors, or the Chairperson's designee, rather than a member of the Board of Directors;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 378, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 378, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1359 Housing on S.B. No. 65

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority for the rehabilitation, remodeling, renovation, and repair of public housing units.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services; Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Makakilo/Kapolei/Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board No. 34; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; and Kunia Village Title Holding Corporation.

Your Committee finds that many Hawaii Public Housing Authority properties were constructed over fifty years ago and require extensive updates to remain safe and habitable. Your Committee further finds that the Authority currently faces a significant capital needs backlog of approximately \$720,000,000. As the Authority relies on federal funding, which is tied into unit occupancy, for approximately ninety percent of its operations, the rehabilitation of vacant units is critical to maximizing federal support.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$10,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 65, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 65, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1360 Housing on S.B. No. 1413

The purpose of this measure is to provide the Hawaii Public Housing Authority with greater ability to dispose of abandoned or seized property in and around federal public housing projects.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii Public Housing Authority federal public housing projects do not have on-site storage facilities, which make it challenging to retain abandoned or seized property for extended periods. This measure establishes clear procedures for the management of abandoned or seized property in federal public housing projects similar to the procedures already in place for State public housing projects, which will create uniformity in the Authority's policies while improving operational efficiencies and reducing the average vacancy period of units.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1413, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1413, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Muraoka). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1361 Housing on S.B. No. 38

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit a county legislative body from making modifications or imposing conditions to affordable housing development proposals that would increase the cost of the project.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation and Grassroot Institute of Hawaii. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu; one member of the Maui County Council; Hawai'i State Association of Counties; Lāhainā Strong; HI Good Neighbor; LIMBY Hawai'i; Hawaii's Thousand Friends; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that projects developed under Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation programs must be primarily affordable and conditions of approval and exactions often add significant cost to developments that ultimately may make the projects infeasible. However, your Committee notes that prohibiting a county legislative body from imposing necessary modifications to a project that would increase the cost can negate the quality of their review and could jeopardize the entire project. Your Committee further notes that any condition that required a change to the plans and drawings could be argued to increase the cost of the project. However, your Committee believes that some guardrails are necessary to ensure that these housing projects remain affordable.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have prohibited a county legislative body from making any modification to a housing project that would increase the cost of the project;
- (2) Prohibiting a county legislative body from imposing conditions stricter than the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation, stricter area median income requirements, or a reduction in fee waivers that will increase the cost of the project; and
- (3) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 38, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 38, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Grandinetti). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1362 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 1185

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a working group within the Department of Agriculture to review and make recommendations on amending or repealing unnecessary or obsolete laws pertaining to agriculture.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Hawai'i Agriculture Research Center; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; East Oahu County Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's agricultural sector is hindered by outdated laws that do not reflect current farming practices or the State's evolving agricultural goals. Many of these regulations were created decades ago and may now be limiting progress, efficiency, and the expansion of local food production. By modernizing regulatory frameworks and removing unnecessary barriers, this measure promotes a more adaptable, productive, and sustainable agricultural economy for Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the responsibilities of the working group, including specifying an initial focus of its review of laws that directly impact agricultural viability and land use and authorizing the working group to recommend additional laws for future review in subsequent legislative sessions;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$100,000 for the working group.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1185, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1185, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1363 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 1304

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Agriculture to continue the statewide pesticide drift monitoring study.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; University of Hawai'i System; Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action.

Your Committee finds that further study is needed to assess the potential impact of pesticide drift near schools and ensure that Hawaii's children are not exposed to off-target pesticide applications. The Department of Agriculture has already initiated a statewide pesticide drift monitoring study, which plays a critical role in evaluating air concentrations of pesticides and their potential effects on public health and the environment. This measure provides funding to continue the study, strengthening the State's ability to assess risks, implement mitigation strategies, and promote responsible pesticide use.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Department of Agriculture to contract with an independent consultant to conduct the study;
- (2) Extending the reporting deadline to the Legislature by three years;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$323,484 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$311,903 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for the continued monitoring of pesticide drift in schools statewide.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1304, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1304, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1364 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 1022

The purpose of this measure is to allow:

- (1) Animal control officers, law enforcement officers, and firefighters to enter an unattended vehicle to protect the health, safety, or well-being of a pet animal that is endangered by being left or confined in an unattended vehicle; and
- (2) Private citizens to retrieve a pet animal that has been left in an unattended vehicle, under certain circumstances.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Animal Rights Hawai'i; AAA Hawaii; Animal Legal Defense Fund; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Honolulu Police Department.

Your Committee finds that each year, numerous pet animals suffer and perish due to being left unattended in parked vehicles under extreme temperature conditions. Many pet owners are unaware that even on mild days, vehicle interiors can rapidly reach dangerously high temperatures in Hawaii. Given the severe risk of heat stroke, dehydration, and fatality, immediate intervention is often necessary to prevent harm. This measure authorizes designated public officials and private citizens to rescue pet animals from unattended vehicles under specified conditions, ensuring the protection and welfare of animals in distress.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1022, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1022, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1365 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 140

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the importation of firewood into the State from another state and the intrastate transportation or sale of firewood not harvested within the State unless the firewood is heat-treated or the importation, transportation, or sale is authorized by the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawai'i Invasive Species Council; Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species; Hawai'i Forest Industry Association; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that invasive pests and pathogens carried by imported firewood pose a serious threat to Hawaii's forests, agricultural industries, and natural resources. Many destructive pests and diseases have been spread through firewood movement in other states, yet Hawaii currently lacks regulations requiring treatment of imported or transported firewood. This measure helps prevent the introduction and spread of harmful pests by prohibiting the importation, transportation, or sale of firewood unless it has been heat-treated or specifically authorized by the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee notes that the provisions in this measure should be placed in statute, rather than administrative rules, to timely establish treatment requirements for firewood and prevent undue burden on the Department of Agriculture in its administrative rule making process to address biosecurity issues in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 140, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 140, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1366 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 301

The purpose of this measure is to establish an additional penalty for a dog owner whose dog destroys property while on land zoned for agricultural use.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Ponoholo Ranch; and six individuals. 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 the presence of uncontrolled dogs on agricultural lands poses a persistent threat to ranchers, livestock producers, and the broader agricultural industry. Incidents involving dogs attacking livestock, including cattle, sheep, and poultry, result in significant financial losses, operational disruptions, and undue distress to the affected animals. This measure strengthens statutory protections by imposing additional penalties on dog owners whose animals cause damage on agricultural lands, thereby enhancing deterrence, promoting responsible pet ownership, and ensuring the security and viability of agricultural operations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 301, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 301, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1367 Health on S.B. No. 1322

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify the procedures for emergency transportation, examination, and hospitalization for individuals who may be mentally ill or suffering from substance abuse and are imminently dangerous to self or others;
- (2) Require treatment providers to provide relevant treatment information to the Department of the Attorney General, upon the Department's request, for purposes of preparing a petition for assisted community treatment;
- (3) Expand notice requirements during emergency hospitalization to include an individual's health care surrogate and allow an individual to waive notice of the hearing to the individual's family members;
- (4) Remove the authority of the Family Court to appoint a legal guardian or conservator in a proceeding for involuntary hospitalization;
- (5) Remove the requirement that psychiatric facilities wait for responses from interested parties to a notice of intent to discharge a patient from involuntary hospitalization before discharging the patient;
- (6) Clarify the circumstances under which the subject of an order for assisted community treatment can be administered medication over the subject's objection;
- (7) Remove the requirement that an assisted community treatment provider assess whether the subject of an order for assisted community treatment who fails to comply with that order meets the criteria for involuntary hospitalization; and
- (8) Allow a single psychiatrist, rather than a panel of three, to provide administrative authorization for medical treatment over the objection of a patient who is in the custody of the Director of Health and in a psychiatric facility.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Governor; Department of Law Enforcement; Department of the Attorney General; Department of Health; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; National Alliance on Mental Illness – Hawaii; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Corporate Board of Directors; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; Hawai'i Pacific Health; and The Queen's Health Systems.

Your Committee finds that as the number of individuals suffering from mental illness or substance use disorders increases there is a pressing need to enhance, clarify, and update the State's mental health laws to ensure the State has access to a wide range of tools to assist these individuals. Your Committee further finds that legal mechanisms, such as emergency transport, examination, and hospitalization, enable the State and mental health providers to provide compassionate assistance to individuals suffering from mental illness or substance abuse when they need it the most. This measure lowers barriers to accessing health care and ensures consistent implementation of methods to engage with individuals who are experiencing a behavioral health or substance abuse crisis, which will support their stabilization and recovery.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring a health care provider who is initiating the emergency transportation of an individual to first contact a mental health emergency worker and get confirmation that the individual is imminently dangerous to self or others prior to the individual being transported to an appropriate facility;
- (2) Requiring an individual admitted to a facility under emergency hospitalization to be released within forty-eight hours of admission, rather than seventy-two hours;
- (3) Establishing limitations on liability for state and county governments, private sector and nonprofit organizations, state and county employees, and certain health care professionals arising from emergency procedures and for assisted community treatment providers; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1322, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1322, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1368 Human Services & Homelessness on S.B. No. 960

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Human Services to improve Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program rates, including establishing additional positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Indivisible Hawai'i Working Families Team; AAUW of Hawai'i; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Ka Ohana O Na Pua; Hawai'i Foodbank; Hawai'i Hunger Action Network; Hawaii Food Industry Association; North Hawaii Community Action Network; North Shore Nutrition; Get Fit Kaua'i; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition; AlohaCare; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Malana Kaua'i; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that many low-income households in Hawaii continue to face significant challenges in accessing sufficient food due to the State's high cost of living and rising food prices. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program plays a vital role in addressing food insecurity, contributing more than \$630,000,000 annually to the State's economy. However, participation in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program remains hindered by administrative challenges, including staff shortages at the Department of Human Services, resulting in prolonged wait times and difficulties in completing eligibility interviews. This measure seeks to allocate funding to strengthen the Department of Human Services' staffing capacity and operational efficiency, ultimately increasing access to food assistance and ensuring that more eligible individuals can benefit from this essential program.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,100,000 for the Department of Human Services to establish an incentive payment for eligibility workers to encourage a higher rate of accurate determinations of eligibility and payments for the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 960, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 960, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1369 Human Services & Homelessness on S.B. No. 961

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Human Services to:

- (1) Adjust the minimum certification periods for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits households;
- (2) Participate in the federal Elderly Simplified Application Project; and
- (3) Submit reports to the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; City and County of Honolulu Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; AARP Hawai'i; Indivisible Hawai'i Working Families Team; AAUW of Hawai'i; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Pele Lani Farm LLC, Kulia I Ka Nu'u Outreach Services; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Foodbank; Hawai'i Hunger Action Network; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Get Fit Kaua'i; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition; AlohaCare; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; American Heart Association; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that expanding access to nutritious food is essential to enhancing the health and well-being of local residents, particularly the State's keiki and kupuna. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which provides monthly financial assistance to eligible low-income households for purchasing food, plays a vital role in addressing food insecurity in Hawaii. This measure seeks to ensure more stable food access for kupuna and SNAP recipients by mandating the Department of Human Services to set a minimum twenty-four-month certification period for households with members aged sixty or older, participate in federal Elderly Simplified Application Project, and establish a twelve-month minimum certification period for all other eligible households.

Your Committee notes that because the Department of Human Services will be implementing its new eligibility system in the fall of 2026, an effective date of July 1, 2027, to implement this measure may be too early.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 961, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 961, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1370 Water & Land on S.B. No. 1462

The purpose of this measure is to reenact the Historic Preservation Income Tax Credit for substantial rehabilitation of a certified historic structure that was repealed on December 31, 2024.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Historic Hawai'i Foundation; Climate Protectors Hawaii; and Sugar Creek Capital. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation.

Your Committee finds that the Historic Preservation Income Tax Credit provided property owners in the State economic support and incentive to continue to rehabilitate, adaptively reuse, and preserve historic buildings and residences. This measure provides the Department of Land and Natural Resources with a valuable tool and incentive to promote investment and economic development in the State by maintaining historic buildings.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the manner in which the tax credit may be distributed and allocated to taxpayer entities;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1462, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1462, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1371 Water & Land on S.B. No. 841

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to establish and conduct a Marine Life Conservation District Carrying Capacity program to assess the carrying capacity of the marine life conservation districts and propose long-term management options to protect the State's marine life conservation districts.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Native Hawaiian Gathering Rights

Association; Ocean Tourism Coalition; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Activities and Attractions Association of Hawaii; True Blue Inc., DBA Kauai Beach Boys DBA Da Life Outdoor Gear; and Sailing Maui Inc.

Your Committee finds that the State's marine life conservation districts serve an important role in conserving and replenishing the State's marine resources. Your Committee further finds that although non-consumptive uses of marine life conservation districts, such as swimming, snorkeling, and diving, have been historically allowed, it has become increasingly evident that these activities can have significant impacts on nearshore ecosystems. Your Committee believes that assessing the impacts of these activities and human-use thresholds, as proposed by this measure, will enable the State to develop appropriate restrictions to protect the State's valuable marine life resources while still allowing residents and visitors adequate access to these areas.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Department of Land and Natural Resources to consult with existing permit-holding commercial operators, rather than community nonprofits, in conducting the Marine Life Conservation District Carrying Capacity Program;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount between \$300,000 to \$1,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 841, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 841, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1372 Water & Land on S.B. No. 849

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit and impose penalties on the intentional taking, harming, or killing of 'io; and
- (2) Increase the penalties and fees for taking and killing indigenous species of aquatic life, wildlife, and land plants that are native to the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that many of the State's native species face significant threats from overexploitation, habitat destruction, and climate change. Your Committee further finds that the 'io, or Hawaiian hawk, plays an important role in maintaining ecological balance by controlling populations of rodents and other invasive species that threaten native flora and fauna. Although the 'io was removed from the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 on February 3, 2020, it still faces ongoing threats from habitat loss, illegal hunting, and environmental degradation. While 'io are currently listed as endangered birds under Hawaii Administrative Rules, your Committee believes that prohibiting the unauthorized taking and killing of Hawaii's indigenous species will deter the intentional taking of 'io in the event the Department of Land and Natural Resources delists 'io in the future.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 849, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 849, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1373 Water & Land on S.B. No. 268

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Reduce the number of members on an Island Burial Council from nine to seven; and
- (2) Remove the requirement that Island Burial Councils include members with development and large property owner interests.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Kahua O Kakou; Hui Humu'ula Kala'i'eha LLC; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies; Huliauapa'a; Nohopapa Hawai'i LLC; Hui Iwi Kuamo'o; and nine individuals.

Your Committee finds that Island Burial Councils play a critical role in preserving iwi kupuna and upholding Native Hawaiian burial practices. Your Committee further finds that although regional representatives of Island Burial Councils must have an understanding of Native Hawaiian culture, history, and burial beliefs, there is no similar requirement for landowner and developer representatives. Your Committee believes that removing the requirement that Island Burial Councils include members with development and large property owner interests will ensure the councils fully align with Native Hawaiian values and customs and focus on the care and protection of iwi kupuna.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 268, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 268, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto, Poepoe). Noes, 1 (Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1374 Water & Land on S.B. No. 411

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Provide the Department of Land and Natural Resources' Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation and the Division of State Parks the flexibility to undertake certain necessary repairs and renovations for existing facilities at the State's small boat harbors and state parks without prior legislative or gubernatorial authorization;
- (2) Establish a notification protocol to ensure that the Legislature is informed of expenditures before they occur; and
- (3) Establish annual reporting requirements relating to those expenditures to the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Activities and Attractions Association of Hawaii; Ocean Tourism Coalition; True Blue Inc., DBA Kauai Beach Boys DBA Da Life Outdoor Gear; Extended Horizons; Sailing Maui Inc.; Shangri-La Sailing Charters; Maui Pacific Divers; Atlantis Submarines; Hawaii Goes Fishing; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that although the Department of Land and Natural Resources has the authority to complete certain types of infrastructure work without capital improvement project (CIP) funding or approval, construction and certain types of larger repair work must follow the CIP process. Your Committee further finds that some of the needed repair work arises after the Legislature has adjourned sine die, resulting in costly delays. Your Committee believes that granting the Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation and Division of State Parks the flexibility to address certain necessary repairs outside of the CIP process will ensure the basic infrastructure maintenance and repair needs of the State's parks and small boat harbors are addressed in a timely fashion.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 411, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 411, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1375 Water & Land on S.B. No. 15

The purpose of this measure is to amend the definition of "historic property" under the State's Historic Preservation Program to include only properties that are over fifty years old and:

- (1) Meet the criteria for being entered into the Hawaii Register of Historic Places; or
- (2) Have important value to Native Hawaiians or other ethnic groups of the State because of associations with cultural practices formerly or currently carried out at the property, or associations with traditional beliefs, events, or oral accounts that are important to history, traditional practices, and cultural identity.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Historic Hawai'i Foundation; Ko'olau Foundation; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from NAIOP Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that the existing definition of "historic property" is overly broad and does not take into consideration whether a structure, object, or site maintains sufficient integrity and significance to be identified as a "historic property". Your Committee believes that narrowing the definition to require historic properties to be evaluated on their integrity and significance, rather than just their age, will align the State with the federal definition of "historic property" and streamline historic preservation reviews that require compliance with federal and state historic preservation policies.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing property that has important value to Native Hawaiians or other ethnic groups of the State from the definition of "historic property";
- (2) Excluding proposed projects on existing residential property and proposed projects in nominally sensitive areas from the State's Historic Preservation Program review under certain circumstances;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 15, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 15, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Iwamoto, Poepoe, Souza). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1376 Transportation on S.B. No. 97

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the penalty for a third or subsequent offense of excessive speeding to a class C felony and a sentence of an indeterminate term of imprisonment of five years;
- (2) Authorize the court, as part of the person's sentencing for the third or subsequent offense, to order that the vehicle be subject to forfeiture; and
- (3) Require a repeat offender convicted of a class C felony for excessive speeding be subject to identification processing.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Department of Law Enforcement; Hawai'i Police Department; Honolulu Police Department; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; AAA Hawai'i; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that excessive speeding presents a significant threat to public safety, contributing to severe accidents, injuries, and fatalities on Hawaii's roads. Your Committee further finds that a 2011 study conducted by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety found that the average risk of death for a pedestrian reaches fifty percent at an impact speed of forty-two miles per hour, seventy-five percent at fifty miles per hour, and ninety percent at fifty-eight miles per hour. These alarming statistics do not even consider variables such as age which would likely result in higher fatality rates for the most vulnerable populations. By enhancing the penalty for repeat offenders to a felony offense and the possibility of forfeiture of the vehicle, this measure aims to deter dangerous driving behaviors and promote greater accountability among motorists.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying penalties for noncompliance with the maximum speed limit under an automated speed enforcement system and specifying that any summons or citations resulting from noncompliance shall not be recorded on a person's traffic abstract and used for insurance purposes;
- (2) Clarifying language relating to summons and citations issued under the Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program;
- (3) Requiring a person who was convicted of certain traffic offenses or granted a deferred acceptance of a guilty or nolo contendere plea or a conditional discharge of the offense to be ordered by the court to report for identification processing;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 97, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 97, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Grandinetti). Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1377 Transportation on S.B. No. 934

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Budget and Finance to increase the Mass Transit Special Fund expenditure ceiling.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that financial constraints on the Mass Transit Special Fund have resulted in significant carry-over balances, limiting the timely disbursement of funds for critical transportation projects. In recent fiscal years, these unspent funds have accumulated, creating shortfalls that necessitate emergency appropriations to meet funding needs. This measure ensures that mass transit projects receive the necessary financial support without unnecessary delays.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$572,695,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 934, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 934, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Muraoka). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1378 Transportation on S.B. No. 1526

The purpose of this measure is to extend the lapse date for funds appropriated out of the Drug and Alcohol Toxicology Testing Laboratory Special Fund for the establishment and maintenance of a drug and alcohol toxicology testing laboratory.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Department of Health; Department of Law Enforcement; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Maui; Hawai'i Police Department; Honolulu Police Department; and Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Your Committee finds that impaired driving remains a serious threat to public safety, with a significant percentage of traffic fatalities involving alcohol or drugs. Currently, the State relies on out-of-state laboratories for toxicology testing, which can delay investigations and increase prosecution costs. Establishing an in-state drug and alcohol toxicology testing laboratory will enhance the efficiency and reliability of forensic testing, providing law enforcement and the Judiciary with timely and accurate results. This measure will extend the lapse date for funds previously appropriated and extend the timeline for the establishment of an in-state testing laboratory.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1526, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1526, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1379 Economic Development & Technology on S.B. No. 1043

The purpose of this measure is to exempt the gross proceeds or income received or derived from the sale of groceries and nonprescription drugs from the general excise tax.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one member of the Maui County Council; Hawaii Ironworkers Stabilization Fund; Activities and Attractions Association of Hawaii; Libertarian Party of Hawaii; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Hawai'i Foodbank; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; ABC Stores; Boteilho Hawaii Enterprises Inc.; and eight individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that general excise taxes on groceries and nonprescription drugs disproportionately impact low- and moderate-income families who are already burdened by Hawaii's high cost of living. While your Committee recognizes the potential benefit of exempting groceries and nonprescription drugs from the general excise tax, your Committee believes that the extent of these exemptions may be untimely, as they would deprive the State of a crucial source of revenue during a period of fiscal uncertainty.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the general excise tax exemption for groceries;
- (2) Reducing the general excise tax rate for nonprescription drugs by one half, rather than providing a full exemption;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1043, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1043, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Holt).

SCRep. 1380 Economic Development & Technology on S.B. No. 1038

The purpose of this measure is to amend the security breach of personal information laws by:

- (1) Adding definitions for "identifier" and "specified data element";
- (2) Amending the definition of "personal information"; and
- (3) Including licensees subject to the Insurance Data Security Law among the businesses deemed compliant with security breach notice requirements.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from TechNet; Mortgage Bankers Association of Hawaii; Hawaii Financial Services Association; and Consumer Data Industry Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Insurance Division and Office of Consumer Protection of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of Human Services; and Hawaii Bankers Association.

Your Committee finds that House Concurrent Resolution No. 225, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, Regular Session of 2019, convened the Twenty-First Century Privacy Law Task Force to examine and make recommendations regarding existing privacy laws and rules. This measure adopts some of the recommendations of the Task Force and ensures that persons impacted by data breaches are notified when certain personal information is compromised.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the definition of "identifier" and including its contents in the definition of "personal information";
- (2) Removing the exclusion of medical information that is protected by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 from the definition of "specified data element";
- (3) Removing the inclusion of licenses subject to the Insurance Data Security Law from the businesses deemed compliant with security breach notice requirements;
- (4) Clarifying that this measure is intended to take effect on April 1, 2026;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider:

- (1) Adding the following to the definition of "personal information":
 - (A) Local location data;
 - (B) Online identifiers such as Internet Protocol (IP) addresses and cookies; and
 - (C) Factors relating to an individual's physical, genetic, mental, economic, or social identity; and
- (2) Amending the definition of "specified data element" to include the last five or more digits of an individual's social security number.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1038, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1038, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Holt).

SCRep. 1381 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 177

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Division of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture to adopt, amend, and repeal rules to develop an assessment and approval process to import and move aquatic livestock in the State; and
- (2) Require and appropriate funds for the Division of Animal Industry to develop that process through a biological aquatic risk-based framework.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Aquaculture & Aquaponics Association; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State's aquaculture industry has a farm gate value of \$89,600,000 -- the second-highest contribution to the economy in diversified agriculture. Your Committee further finds that Hawaii is home to some of the most unique and biodiverse marine ecosystems in the world; however, these ecosystems are highly sensitive to external influences, including the introduction of non-native aquatic species. Disease can devastate aquaculture

industries and a risk-based framework and biocontainment standards are important protections for aquaculture operations and aquatic ecosystems. This measure therefore provides authority for the development of a comprehensive assessment and approval process to help prevent disease from entering aquaculture operations in the State and protect native aquatic species.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 177, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Tam, Pierick).

SCRep. 1382 Consumer Protection & Commerce/Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1117

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit the operation of a moped or electric motorcycle on areas designated for bicycle use;
- (2) Amend the existing Electric Bicycle and Electric Moped Rebate Program by:
 - (A) Renaming the Program as the Electric Mobility Device Rebate Program;
 - (B) Expanding the types of devices eligible for a rebate, including adaptive electric bicycles and electric micro-mobility devices;
 - (C) Expanding the available rebates such that one rebate is available to all purchasers and an additional rebate is available to persons who meet certain eligibility criteria;
 - (D) Increasing the amount of the rebates; and
 - (E) Amending the administration of, and the funding for, the rebate program;
- (3) Clarify the registration requirements with respect to class 3 electric bicycles;
- (4) Establish a cap for the Electric Mobility Device Subaccount and requirements for transferring funds into the Subaccount;
- (5) Raise the age for which a helmet is required when operating electric foot scooters from sixteen to eighteen;
- (6) Repeal the age restriction on the operation of low-speed electric bicycles;
- (7) Establish an age restriction of fifteen years of age for the operation of a class 3 electric bicycle;
- (8) Establish regulations on the operation of electric bicycles;
- (9) Raise the age for which a helmet is required when operating bicycles from sixteen to eighteen;
- (10) Change all references to "motor scooters" with the term "motor-driven cycles";
- (11) Establish an age restriction of eighteen years of age for the operation of electric motorcycles and motor-driven cycles; and
- (12) Transfer and appropriate funds for the operation of the Electric Mobility Device Rebate Program.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Department of Transportation Services and Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency of the City and County of Honolulu; Ulupono Initiative; Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition; Kapiolani Medical Center for Women & Children; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Hawai'i Bicycling League; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; and one individual.

Your Committees find that the growing popularity of alternative modes of transportation, including electric bicycles, electric mopeds, and other electric mobility devices, allows residents to reduce their transportation expenses while reducing their carbon footprints. However, your Committees further find that the growing incidence of persons improperly operating such devices are increasingly frustrating to all users of sidewalks and roadways and are a growing threat to public health and safety. This measure, in an effort to promote safety for all users of the sidewalks and roadways in the State, makes various amendments to the State's transportation laws to regulate the use of such devices.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Consumer Protection & Commerce and Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1117, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommend that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.
Consumer Protection & Commerce: Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Tam, Pierick).
Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs: Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1383 Transportation on S.B. No. 106

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize pedestrians to act contrary to the Statewide Traffic Code when a reasonably careful pedestrian would determine that there is no immediate danger of a collision with a moving vehicle if the pedestrian is more than two hundred feet from a crosswalk; and
- (2) Require a driver of a vehicle to yield to a pedestrian when the pedestrian clearly indicates their intention to cross a roadway within a crosswalk.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Hawai'i Workers Center; Health Eating + Active Living; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Honolulu Police Department; Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that existing pedestrian laws often penalize individuals for making reasonable and safe decisions when crossing the street, particularly in areas with limited marked crosswalks. Studies show that enforcement of jaywalking laws disproportionately affects vulnerable communities and does not necessarily improve pedestrian safety. Instead, focusing on infrastructure improvements and ensuring drivers yield to pedestrians can create safer and more accessible streets for all.

However, your Committee believes that it is imperative to ensure the safety of all pedestrians in the State and that a pilot program would provide a better understanding of the impacts of allowing pedestrians to cross in areas with an unmarked crosswalk rather than allowing pedestrians to act in a way that is contrary to the Statewide Traffic Code.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the purpose section;
- (2) Making this measure a three-year Pedestrian Safety Pilot Program (Pilot Program) in each county with a population of two hundred fifty thousand or less by placing the language in session law rather than codifying it in the Hawaii Revised Statutes and clarifying the scope of the Pilot Program;
- (3) Authorizing each county to opt out of the Pilot Program, subject to the approval of the Director of Transportation;
- (4) Establishing fines and exceptions to the fines and depositing the fines collected into the State Highway Fund to support pedestrian safety infrastructure improvements;
- (5) Authorizing a pedestrian to contest a citation through an administrative hearing process;
- (6) Requiring the Department of Transportation and each county law enforcement agency to develop clear enforcement guidelines;
- (7) Specifying that burden of proof lies with the issuing officer;
- (8) Authorizing the Governor to:
 - (A) Revoke and abolish the Pilot Program statewide at any time if deemed necessary for public safety; and
 - (B) Overturn a county's approved opt-out request, in consultation with various individuals;
- (9) Authorizing a county with a population of over two hundred fifty thousand to participate in the Pilot Program, subject to certain conditions;
- (10) Requiring the Department of Transportation, in coordination with the State Highway Safety and Modernization Council, to collect and analyze data on the impacts of the Pilot Program and report to the Legislature before and after the Regular Sessions of 2026, 2027, and 2028;
- (11) Exempting certain roadways and areas from the Pilot Program;
- (12) Defining "immediate danger";
- (13) Inserting a sunset date of June 30, 2028;
- (14) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (15) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 106, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 106, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Muraoka). Noes, 1 (Miyake). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1384 Transportation on S.B. No. 1638

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Molokai Air Carrier Subsidy Program to provide subsidies to airlines operating out of Molokai Airport; and
- (2) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one member of the Maui County Council and Chamber of Commerce Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that residents of Molokai face significant challenges in accessing reliable and affordable air travel, which is essential for medical care, employment, and maintaining connections with other islands. With limited airline options, frequent flight cancellations, and high ticket prices, many residents experience financial hardship and delays in receiving critical services. Your Committee believes that supporting air carriers operating out of Molokai Airport will ensure more consistent and accessible transportation options for the Molokai community.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the purpose section;
- (2) Changing the Molokai Air Carrier Subsidy Program to a three-year pilot program and placing the language in session law rather than codifying it in the Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (3) Requiring an applicant to demonstrate measurable improvements in air service availability or affordability and requiring the Department of Transportation to establish guidelines to evaluate the extent of these improvements before awarding or renewing any subsidy;
- (4) Clarifying and expanding the reporting requirements on the Molokai Air Carrier Subsidy Pilot Program;
- (5) Requiring the Department of Transportation to conduct an annual audit of funds disbursed under the Molokai Air Carrier Subsidy Program and specifying that if an air carrier misuses funds, the carrier shall return the misused amount and is ineligible for further subsidies for a period of up to three years;
- (6) Inserting a sunset date of June 30, 2028;
- (7) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1638, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1638, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1385 Transportation on S.B. No. 1195

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit any vehicle from parking within certain distances of crosswalks, with certain exceptions; and
- (2) Specify that signs or curb markings are not required to restrict parking within twenty feet of a crosswalk or intersection.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Department of Health; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Hawai'i Bicycling League; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that pedestrian and cyclist safety is a growing concern in the State, with an increasing number of traffic-related fatalities involving vulnerable road users. Studies show that a significant percentage of pedestrians and bicycle accidents occur at intersections, where visibility is often obstructed by parked vehicles. This measure will ensure clear sightlines at crosswalks and intersections, a proven strategy to reduce collisions and enhance public safety.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the preamble;
- (2) Establishing fines for violations of the street parking restrictions to be deposited into the Safe Routes to School Program Special Fund;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1195, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1195, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1386 Labor on S.B. No. 747

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an Audit Office within the Board of Education to audit the operations and expenditures of the Department of Education;
- (2) Establish positions within the Audit Office and exempt those positions from civil service; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for the establishment and operation of the Audit Office and exempt positions.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Board of Education.

Your Committee finds that the establishment of an Audit Office within the Board of Education will ensure accountability, transparency, and efficiency in the operations, expenditures, and programs of the Department of Education.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 747, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1387 Labor on S.B. No. 1402

The purpose of this measure is to amend the requirements for the securing of mooring lines in state commercial harbors for certain vessels.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Longline Association and General Contractors Association of Hawaii. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Holo Holo Charters, Inc.

Your Committee recognizes that certain vessels that are considered to be small do not need be additionally restrained by heavy-duty mooring lines, as small vessels are often light enough to be easily secured to docks or other structures using simpler methods.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1402, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1388 Labor on S.B. No. 447

The purpose of this measure is to establish a three-year Hiring Pilot Program within the Department of Health to streamline its hiring process by delegating certain human resources services from the Department of Human Resources Development to the Department of Health.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development.

Your Committee finds that addressing staffing shortages in the State's public health sector serves the public interest and is a key priority for the State. As of March 2025, the Department of Health reported a vacancy rate of twenty-nine percent, equaling 1,031 vacant positions. Your Committee further finds that a recent survey indicated that forty-three percent of the Department of Health's staff are expecting to seek employment elsewhere within the next twelve months, despite feeling a sense of purpose and meaning in their work and support from their colleagues and supervisors. Your Committee recognizes that the Department of Health has exhausted all the tools provided by the Department of Human Resources Development, including the Hire Hawaii Program, Holo Delegation, and Wikiwiki Hiring Program, which have had little effect on filling their large vacancy. Your Committee notes that the Department of Health's chief concern is the timeliness in which qualified candidates are referred to them, noting that it often takes two to four months for the Human Resource Office to pre-screen applicants and provide the Department of Health with a list of candidates to contact for an interview, by which time those applicants have found employment elsewhere. This Hiring Pilot Program established under this measure will streamline the hiring process in the Department of Health and further the Department of Health's mission to protect and promote the physical, behavioral, and environmental well-being of the State's residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 447, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 447, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1389 Labor on S.B. No. 1065

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the State, including its departments, agencies, or political subdivisions, from requiring a bachelor's degree as a qualification for a state or county position, unless the knowledge and skills required to perform job duties can only be obtained through the culmination of coursework in a bachelor's degree program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development and Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that while possessing a bachelor's degree in a relevant field is typically required for many state and county positions, as it demonstrates a foundational knowledge or skill that is necessary to be qualified for certain positions, it is not the only way in which that knowledge or skill can be learned or acquired. Your Committee also finds that some position descriptions allow other fields of study as acceptable substitutes. While these substitutes may be relevant to the subject matter, they may not be as directly applicable to the practical skills needed to perform job duties. Requiring a degree solely for the sake of having one does little to improve the State's ability to provide public service and risks excluding individuals who could otherwise be valuable contributors to the public sector. Your Committee believes that a history of successful employment, increased responsibilities, and relevant skills stands on its own merit, regardless of any degrees obtained. The prohibitions established under this measure will create a more diverse workforce, expand the applicant pool, and ultimately provide better opportunities for skilled applicants to be considered for a position they might not have qualified for otherwise.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1065, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1065, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 6; Ayes with Reservations (Reyes Oda). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1390 Labor on S.B. No. 442

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish two additional categories of retirants who may be employed without re-enrollment in the Employees' Retirement System and without loss or interruption of retirement benefits and are identified as a labor shortage or difficult-to-fill positions by the appropriate department including:
 - (A) Investigator positions in the Department of the Attorney General or Department of Law Enforcement; and
 - (B) Management positions excluded from collective bargaining in any department; and
- (2) Require the Director of Human Resources of the appropriate state jurisdiction to include details on the employment of retirants in certain management positions or as investigators in their annual report to the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of Law Enforcement. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees.

Your Committee finds that allowing valuable and experienced retirants to be rehired is a sound method to address the high vacancy rate in the public sector, especially within the Department of Law Enforcement and Department of the Attorney General. However, your Committee notes the concerns raised by the Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees, in that no clear and uniform criteria are established for the determination of "labor shortage" or "difficult-to-fill" positions, possibly resulting in inconsistent determinations and administration of employees under the same employer.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing investigator positions in the Department of the Attorney General or Department of Law Enforcement and management positions excluded from collective bargaining in any department as additional categories of retirants who may be employed without re-enrollment in the Employees' Retirement System established under this measure;
- (2) Adding positions needed for succession planning as a type of position that can be identified by the appropriate jurisdiction to be filled by retirants without reenrollment into the Employees' Retirement System;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 442, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 442, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 6; Ayes with Reservations (Reyes Oda). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1391 Labor on S.B. No. 340

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Hawaii Labor Relations Board to enforce its own orders.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Labor Relations Board. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds it important to clarify that the Hawaii Labor Relations Board has the authority to enforce its own orders. Your Committee also finds that under existing law the Hawaii Labor Relations Board is authorized to conduct proceedings on complaints of prohibited or unfair practices and take action as it deems necessary and proper. Therefore, your Committee believes that it is appropriate to authorize the Hawaii Labor Relations Board to enforce such actions, as it relates to proceedings on complaints of prohibited practices by employers, employees, and employee organizations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the concerns raised by the Department of the Attorney General in regard to authorizing an administrative agency to enforce its own orders rather than seeking enforcement through established judicial procedures.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 340, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 340, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1392 Labor on S.B. No. 1571

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Exclude all positions within the Hawaii Tourism Authority from civil service law;
- (2) Amend the definition of "convention center facility" or "convention center" to clarify that the facilities must reflect a "Hawaii" sense of place rather than a "Hawaiian" sense of place;
- (3) Designate the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority as an advisory board; and
- (4) Repeal the statutory limitation on when a former board member of the Hawaii Visitors and Convention Bureau can serve on the Hawaii Tourism Authority's Board of Directors.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; and Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

Your Committee finds that many departments and agencies in the State are facing staffing shortages. Exempting all positions within the Hawaii Tourism Authority from civil service law provides a method for the Hawaii Tourism Authority to attract qualified individuals to apply to its positions.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Reverting the proposed amendment to the statutory definition of "convention center facility" or "convention center" back to existing law to reflect a "Hawaiian sense of place" rather than a "Hawaii sense of place";
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1571, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1571, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, 1 (Reyes Oda). Excused, none.

SCRep. 1393 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.B. No. 329

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require at least fifty percent of treatment works effluent to be R-1 recycled water by January 1, 2045;
- (2) Extend the date after which treated or raw sewage is prohibited from being discharged into state waters from December 31, 2026, to December 31, 2030; and
- (3) Clarify that the prohibition on the discharge of treated or raw sewage shall not apply to sewage treatment plants that produce clean energy and have primary and secondary outfalls.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Environmental Management of the County of Hawai'i. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Health; Department of Environmental Services of the City and County of Honolulu; and Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition.

Your Committee finds that reusing recycled water for non-potable purposes helps conserve fresh water resources and promotes sustainable resource-management practices. This measure encourages the reuse of recycled water by setting a goal for a minimum amount of treatment works effluent to be recycled and suitable for use in recycled water systems.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the percentage of treatment works effluent required to be recycled water to an unspecified percentage;
- (2) Removing the extension of the date after which the discharge of treated or raw sewage into state waters is prohibited;
- (3) Removing language narrowing the kind of sewage treatment plants that are exempt from the prohibition on the discharge of treated or raw sewage;

- (4) Adding a requirement that by January 1, 2027, the counties shall report to the Department of Health on the feasibility of recycling treatment works effluent that meets certain standards;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 329, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 329, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1394 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.B. No. 1120

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Transportation to conduct a feasibility study on implementing a clean fuel standard for alternative fuels in the State; and
- (2) Require the Department of Transportation to adopt rules governing a clean fuel standard for alternative fuels in the State by January 1, 2028.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Neste; Clean Fuel HI Coalition; Amazon; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Clean Energy; Island Energy Services, LLC; Low Carbon Fuels Coalition; Clean Fuels Alliance America; Twelve Benefit Corporation; Infinium Operations, LLC; Blue Planet Foundation; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Energy Justice Network; Green Party Of Hawai'i; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Alaska Airlines; Hawaiian Airlines; Par Hawaii; and Coalition Earth.

Your Committee finds that the State's largest source of lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions is transportation and there is an urgent need to encourage more sustainable transportation fuel options. Your Committee recognizes that in order for the State to effectively transition away from traditional fuels, clean fuel standards for alternative fuels would provide the necessary lower-carbon-emitting targets and incentives for alternative fuels.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1120, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1395 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.B. No. 1232

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds to the University of Hawaii for a three-year New Wastewater Technology Testing Pilot Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; University of Hawai'i Water Resources Research Center; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i and Palmyra; and Hawai'i Association of REALTORS.

Your Committee finds that every cesspool in the State, except for cesspools granted exemptions by the Director of Health, must be upgraded or converted to a Director of Health-approved wastewater system or connected to a sewerage system by January 1, 2050. Your Committee recognizes that the costs associated with the upgrade, conversion, or connection of cesspools are significant and that there are new and emerging wastewater technologies and management solutions that may be more effective and less costly. This measure ensures that the affordability, feasibility, and efficiency of these new technologies are assessed as possible alternatives.

Your Committee requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$750,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1232, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1396 Energy & Environmental Protection/Water & Land on S.B. No. 1318

The purpose of this measure is to amend section 200-14, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to repeal duplicative language regarding penalties for water pollution offenses and clarify that enforcement of criminal water pollution offenses remains under the jurisdiction of the Department of Health, rather than the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Health; and Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committees find that Act 215, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024 (Act 215), made clarifications to section 200-14, Hawaii Revised Statutes, regarding criminal and administrative penalties for offenses relating to ocean recreation. Your Committees recognize that by attempting to criminalize violations of Department of Land and Natural Resources' rules, Act 215 established penalties that conflict with existing penalties under section 342D-33, Hawaii Revised Statutes. This measure eliminates the conflicting language and clarifies that the stricter penalties of these water pollution offenses would apply.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and Water & Land that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1318 and recommend that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Energy & Environmental Protection: Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

Water & Land: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1397 Energy & Environmental Protection/Water & Land on S.B. No. 1602

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Keauhou Aquifer System Monitoring Pilot Program; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to install two monitoring wells in the Keauhou Aquifer System.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority; Kona Community Development Plan Action Committee; Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce; Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii; and two individuals.

Your Committees find that the Keauhou Aquifer System, a vital water source that sustains local communities, faces issues related to increased water demand and overuse. Your Committees further find that these issues necessitate further monitoring of the Keauhou Aquifer System and additional testing to ensure safe water quality.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the Keauhou Aquifer System Monitoring Pilot Project by:
 - (A) Clarifying that the Commission on Water Resource Management may work with other agencies;
 - (B) Clarifying that the Commission will conduct water salinity tests and include water salinity analysis in reports to the Legislature;
 - (C) Adding additional responsibilities related to monitoring, public outreach, and planning; and
 - (D) Requiring the Department of Land and Natural Resources to determine whether to continue, expand, or end the Keauhou Aquifer System Monitoring Pilot Project based on its assessment of the Pilot Project;
- (2) Adding an appropriation of an unspecified sum for the Keauhou Aquifer System Monitoring Pilot Project;
- (3) Changing the appropriation for the installation of two monitoring wells to be for only fiscal year 2025-2026;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committees respectfully request your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the appropriation amounts of:

- (1) \$200,000 for the Keauhou Aquifer System Monitoring Pilot Project; and
- (2) \$4,000,000 for the installation of two monitoring wells in the Keauhou Aquifer System.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and Water & Land that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1602, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1602, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Energy & Environmental Protection: Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

Water & Land: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1398 Energy & Environmental Protection/Water & Land on S.B. No. 1074

The purpose of this measure is to allow:

- (1) A previously authorized or permitted activity or operation to continue operation for a period of one year while the appropriate agency determines whether the activity or operation is subject to or exempt from the environmental review process; and
- (2) A person with oversight of a previously authorized or permitted activity or operation to renew the appropriate permits while under the environmental review process.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Teralani Sailing Adventures; NOKANET Consulting; Ocean Tourism Coalition; Activities and Attractions Association of Hawaii; Sailing Shipp's LTD. dba Gemini Charters; Maui Hotel and Lodging Association; The Westin Maui Resort & Spa; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Kaanapali Golf Courses; Absolute Charters dba Kainani Sails; Maui Classic Charters; Explore Kauai Scuba; Jack's Diving Locker; Absolute Charters, Inc.; Lahaina Divers; Blue Dolphin Charters, Ltd.; Maui Brewing Co; The Ritz-Carlton Maui, Kapalua; Meili Vodka; Outfitters Kauai Ltd; Island Scuba Inc.; Schooner Creek Boat Works; Critical Ocean Rescue Education Hawaii; Resting Beach Face LLC; Holokai Catamaran; Islands Beach Activities, Inc.; Fun Charters Inc.; Sheraton Maui Resort & Spa; RED Hospitality and Leisure Hawaii, LLC; Outrigger Hospitality Group; Maita'i Catamaran Corporation; Sailing Shipp's; Sailing Maui Inc.; Exclusive Limo Maui; Island Dream Productions; Sea Maui; Gone Surfing Hawaii; Ka'anapali Kai Charters; Three's Bar & Grill; Na Pali Experience; 3two3 Promotions; Anela Kai Catamarans, Inc.; Hi-Tech Surf Sports; Banyan Tree Divers Maui; Splashers Ocean Adventures DBA Kona Snorkel Trips; Extended Horizons; Captain Andy's Sailing; Maui Snorkeling; Kamoana Incorporated; Trilogy Excursions; Aloha Blue Charters; Aqua Adventures; Holo Holo Charters, Inc.; Irish on Maui; Tech Partners Hawaii; Outrigger Kā'anapali Beach Resort; and numerous individuals.

Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; 'Ilio'ulaokalani Coalition; Earthjustice; Clean The Pacific; Recycle Hawaii; Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Hui; Sierra Club of Hawaii; For the Fishes; Rights of Nature Hawaii; Hawaii's Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawaii; Friends of Hanauma Bay; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Friends of Pebble Beach, South Kona, HI; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii; Kihei Community Association (KCA); Big Island Reef Keepers Hui; Earthjustice; Pō'ai Wai Ola; Nā Kia'i Kai; Native Hawaii Legal Corporation; Free Access Coalition; Surfrider Foundation, Hawaii Region; Kua'Āina Ulu 'Auamo; Kupuna for the Moopuna; Green Party of Hawaii; Kūmano I Ke Ala; Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club; Legacy Reef Foundation; and numerous individuals.

Your Committees find that recent court decisions have broadened the kind of activities that are subject to environmental review, potentially forcing long-standing commercial activities to cease operation while the environmental review is conducted. While your Committees recognize that certain activities should be authorized to continue operations pending environmental review, this authorization should be more narrowly applied.

Accordingly, your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Allowing only those activities or operations that are permitted or authorized under chapter 200, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and renewed within twelve months preceding the initiation of proceedings to determine whether the activities or operations are subject to environmental review to continue operation for one year pending the determination and any necessary environmental review and allowing persons with oversight of these activities or operations to renew permits;
- (2) Adding a sunset date of June 30, 2027;

- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and Water & Land that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1074, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1074, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Energy & Environmental Protection: Ayes, 4; Ayes with Reservations (Perruso). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

Water & Land: Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Shimizu, Souza). Noes, 2 (Iwamoto, Poepoe). Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1399 Water & Land on S.B. No. 1669

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Transit-Oriented Community Improvement Partnership and Community Improvement Revolving Fund for purposes of developing and implementing transit-oriented community development; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the establishment and operation of the Transit-Oriented Community Improvement Partnership and establishment of various positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Hawai'i State Energy Office; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Trees for Honolulu's Future; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Hawai'i Bicycling League; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Stanford Carr Development; American Institute of Architects Hawaii; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Budget and Finance; and Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

Your Committee finds that while significant effort has been made to plan for and prioritize affordable housing in transit-oriented development areas, this same effort has not been put into ensuring these communities have the necessary infrastructure, amenities, and public spaces necessary to create successful, livable communities. As a result, these structures are often put in as an afterthought once people move in and discover gaps in their quality of life. Your Committee believes that establishing a single agency whose primary mission is to prioritize, plan, and build community infrastructure and amenities will ensure the State's transit-oriented developments become livable and desirable communities for Hawaii's residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that applications for grants should be made to the Transit-Oriented Community Improvement Partnership rather than the Department of Transportation;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1669, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1669, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Ichiyama, Woodson).

SCRep. 1400 Water & Land on S.B. No. 1083

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to include line-item funding for maintenance dredging at state small boat harbor facilities in its annual budget request for each fiscal biennium beginning with the 2027-2029 fiscal biennium; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for maintenance dredging at state small boat harbors, boat launch ramp facilities, and other state boating facilities and waterways.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Activities and Attractions Association of Hawaii; Sailing Maui Inc.; The Magic Merman Snorkel Charters; Ocean Tourism Coalition; Polynesian Adventure Tours, LLC; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that maintenance dredging is critical to the upkeep of the State's small boat harbors, channels, ramps, and other port infrastructure. Your Committee further finds that the Department of Land and Natural Resources must obtain funding for dredging through the capital improvement project budget, which often delays the commencement of dredging projects, resulting in increased dredging costs and interfering with vessel navigation and the launching and retrieval of vessels at small boat harbors and other state boating facilities and waterways. Your Committee believes that requiring the Department of Land and Natural Resources to include funding for maintenance dredging as part of the Department's annual budget request will ensure the State's harbors and launch facilities are timely maintained to be safe and accessible.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$ 5,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1083, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1083, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1401 Water & Land on S.B. No. 321

The purpose of this measure is to require that fee simple absolute title of a privately-owned highway, road, alley, street, way, lane, bikeway, bridge, or trail held by a subdivider be deemed transferred to certain owners under certain circumstances.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from three individuals.

Your Committee finds that many private roads that were created as part of a planned community development are owned by entities that have dissolved or are otherwise inactive. As a result, the community associations that maintain these roadways do not have actual title to the roads, which prevents the community associations from being able to secure financing or enter into contracts for road work and creates unnecessary barriers if the State or counties need to acquire an easement involving these roads. Your Committee believes that automatically transferring ownership of these roads after the subdivider has dissolved will ensure the State's roadways are appropriately maintained.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 321, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1402 Water & Land on S.B. No. 1146

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the University of Hawai'i to:

- (1) Develop an action plan and pre-engineering concept plan to help with debris management and water quality control issues in the Ala Wai watershed;
- (2) Establish two graduate assistant positions to assist with the action plan and pre-engineering concept plan; and
- (3) Provide partial summer overload support for faculty mentors providing oversight of the student project teams.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Waikiki Neighborhood Board; Waikiki Beach Special Improvement District Association; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Ala Wai watershed is a critical component of Hawai'i's ecosystem and a natural resource that provides access and recreational opportunities for local residents and visitors. Your Committee further finds that floating debris in the Ala Wai canal have been a persistent problem that severely harms recreational users and aquatic habitats in the State's nearshore waters. The development of an action plan and pre-engineering concept to address debris accumulation and management and water quality in the Ala Wai canal is a vital step in protecting the State's natural resources.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$125,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1146, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1403 Water & Land on S.B. No. 1511

The purpose of this measure is to preserve the quiet recreational character of Hanalei Bay and protect the safety of residents and visitors who use the Bay for water activities by restricting the size of vessels permitted to enter Hanalei Bay.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the County of Kaua'i; Hanalei-Wainiha-Ha'ena Community Association; Hanalei Watershed Hui; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that in recent years, several large vessels have moored in Hanalei Bay, greatly disrupting the quiet enjoyment of the waters by other residents and visitors and posing a health and safety risk to those partaking in ocean activities in Hanalei Bay. Your Committee further finds that although Hanalei Bay has designated recreational mooring available on a seasonal basis, it cannot safely accommodate large vessels. Your Committee believes that clearly prohibiting these large vessels from entering the bay will protect the health and safety of all users of Hanalei Bay.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1511, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1511, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1404 Water & Land on S.B. No. 1002

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources, through the State Historic Preservation Division, to contract its review of proposed state projects and projects affecting historic properties to third-party consultants if the proposed project involves a development intended to be affordable housing, under certain conditions;
- (2) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to publish proposed rules regarding the contracting of third-party consultants on its website and later present proposed final rules to the Board of Land and Natural Resources; and
- (3) Appropriate funds to the State Historic Preservation Division for the recruitment and retention of qualified third-party consultants to expedite review of proposed state affordable housing projects and affordable housing projects affecting historic properties.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; NAIOP Hawaii; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee finds that the State has a duty to preserve the historic and cultural property within Hawaii for the education, inspiration, pleasure, and enrichment of its citizens. Your Committee further finds that, with the State's on-going housing crisis, the State Historic Preservation Division consistently receives more requests for historic review of proposed projects than it can review in a timely manner. This measure is intended to accelerate the construction of affordable housing units and reduce expenses by authorizing the State Historic Preservation Division to contract out the historic review of certain housing projects.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$100,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1002, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1002, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1405 Water & Land on S.B. No. 946

The purpose of this measure is to clarify the exemptions to the prohibition on discharging any wastewater or raw sewage into state waters after December 31, 2026, by:

- (1) Repealing the exemption for treatment plants that produce clean energy; and
- (2) Applying the prohibition to all treatment plants.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; and Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition.

Your Committee finds that this measure will enable critical projects, such as the Central Maui Wastewater Reclamation Facility, to move forward without costly delays and will support affordable housing and environmental protection efforts.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Restoring the statutory provisions prohibiting a person from discharging any wastewater or raw sewage into state waters after December 31, 2026; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 946, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 946, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 1 (Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1406 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 659

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Exempt purchases of fresh local agricultural products and local value-added, processed, agricultural, or food products of less than a certain dollar amount from the electronic procurement system, subject to certain requirements;
- (2) Require the Department of Education to establish guidelines for determining a county-level geographic preference for locally sourced products when procuring products; and
- (3) Exempt the Department of Education from the requirement that certain agricultural products be subject to the Hawaii Public Procurement Code.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Department of Agriculture; City and County of Honolulu Office of Climate Change, Sustainability, and Resiliency; Local Food Coalition; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the State Procurement Office.

Your Committee finds that increasing the procurement of locally sourced agricultural products for public schools is essential to strengthening Hawaii's farm to school efforts. While section 302A-405.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, mandates that at least thirty percent of school meals be sourced locally by 2030, existing procurement processes favor large, out-of-state suppliers, limiting opportunities for Hawaii's farmers and ranchers. This measure streamlines the procurement process by adjusting small purchase thresholds, exempting certain purchases from the Hawaii Public Procurement Code, and requiring the establishment of guidelines for geographic preferences for local products, strengthening the State's commitment to long-term food sustainability and student nutrition.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 659, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1407 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 125

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Expand the definition of "eligible business activity" for purposes of the State Enterprise Zone Program by including:
 - (A) The sale of tangible personal property manufactured and sold at retail in an enterprise zone for consumption or use by the purchaser and not for resale;
 - (B) The processing of value-added agricultural products, all or some of which were grown within an enterprise zone;
 - (C) The provision of professional services by health care professionals in health-care-related sectors; and

- (D) The use of advanced manufacturing to produce products and the development of cybersecurity technology;
- (2) Extend from seven years to nine years the eligibility period of the state business tax credit and general excise tax exemption for qualified businesses within enterprise zones; and
- (3) Extend from ten years to twelve years the eligibility period of the general excise tax exemption for qualified businesses within enterprise zones engaged in the manufacturing of tangible personal property or the producing or processing of agricultural products.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Holomua Collaborative; Hawaii Military Affairs Council; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Mana Up; HPM Building Supply; Tori Richard; Title Guaranty of Hawai'i; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Hawai'i Forest Industry Association; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the State Enterprise Zone Program was established to stimulate economic growth by providing tax and regulatory incentives to businesses operating in designated areas. While traditionally benefiting industries such as agriculture, manufacturing, and distribution, the State Enterprise Zone Program's eligibility requirements have not kept pace with emerging industries or technologies or evolving business models, particularly for local manufacturers who sell directly to consumers rather than through wholesalers. By updating the State Enterprise Zone Program to reflect current economic realities, this measure strengthens local businesses, fosters job creation, and enhances economic opportunities for Hawaii's communities.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 125, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1408 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 739

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow the Governor to negotiate land exchanges, subject to approval by the Board of Land and Natural Resources, to acquire lands that are suitable for long-term diversified agricultural production in exchange for land for private affordable, workforce, or other housing development; and
- (2) Require the Governor to submit a report to the Legislature prior to the Regular Session of 2026.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Agribusiness Development Corporation; Hawaii Food+ Policy; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's shift away from plantation agriculture has left vast tracts of former sugar and pineapple lands unused, while the State simultaneously faces a severe shortage of affordable and workforce housing. This measure establishes a framework for the State to negotiate land exchanges that align with agricultural sustainability and housing development needs, ensuring efficient land use for public benefit.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 739, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1409 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 1099

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Land Use Commission to designate county or state lands as Important Agricultural Lands and adopt maps for the designated lands in counties that fail to identify and recommend Important Agricultural Lands by December 31, 2027.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Land Use Commission; and Hawai'i Farm Bureau.

Your Committee finds that the designation of Important Agricultural Lands is essential for preserving agricultural viability and ensuring long-term food security in the State. While counties are responsible for identifying county lands and recommending those lands for designation as Important Agricultural Lands, delays in this process threaten the protection of prime agricultural lands from urbanization and other non-agricultural uses. This measure addresses this issue by authorizing the Land Use Commission to designate county or state lands as Important Agricultural Lands if a county fails to fulfill its obligations by December 31, 2027, ensuring that vital lands remain available for farming and food production.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1099, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1410 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 1250

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for the Hawaii Farm to Families Program to fund food banks in the State to purchase, store, and transport locally grown or produced food to communities that are experiencing food insecurity.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; Makakilo/Kapolei/Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board No. 34; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; City and County of Honolulu Office of Climate Change, Sustainability, and Resiliency; Hawai'i Youth Food Council; Hawaii Crop Improvement Association; Green Party Hawai'i; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Ohana Unity Party; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; Ulupono Initiative; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Foodbank; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Maui Food Bank; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Ho'okipa Kauai; The Salvation Army Ray & Joan Kroc Corps Community Center; Lokoea Farms; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; The Food Basket Inc.; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; 350Hawaii.org; Kokua Kalihi Valley Comprehensive Family Services; Our Lady of Sorrows Church; Hawai'i Hunger Action Network; Maui County Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Hawaii Farmers Union; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that food insecurity is a pressing issue in Hawaii, with one in three households struggling to access consistent and nutritious food. This crisis disproportionately impacts vulnerable populations, particularly keiki and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities. This measure

establishes and funds the Hawaii Farm to Families Program, which will enable food banks to purchase, store, and distribute fresh, locally grown produce to food-insecure communities. By strengthening the connection between local agriculture and food assistance programs, this measure not only ensures that families receive nutritious food but also supports Hawaii's farmers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$2,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1250, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1250, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1411 Agriculture & Food Systems/Energy & Environmental Protection on S.B. No. 443

The purpose of this measure is to require lands within the agricultural district that have solar energy facilities to obtain certification from the Department of Agriculture that the lands are also used for farming operations.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Agribusiness Development Corporation; Ulupono Initiative; 350Hawaii.org; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and Hawai'i Food+ Policy. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture and Hawaii State Energy Office.

Your Committees find that while renewable energy development is important, prime farmland is increasingly being repurposed for solar energy projects, reducing the availability of land for farming and diminishing the State's efforts to achieve agricultural self-sufficiency. This measure mitigates this issue by requiring that any lands within the agricultural district with class B or C soils upon which are sited solar energy facilities obtain certification from the Department of Agriculture to confirm active and legitimate farming operations. By reinforcing agricultural use requirements, this measure safeguards vital farmland, ensures that agricultural lands remain productive in agriculture, and upholds the State's commitment to strengthening local food security.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style, including conforming amendments to section 205-2(d)(6)(B), Hawaii Revised Statutes.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Agriculture & Food Systems and Energy & Environmental Protection that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 443, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 443, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Agriculture & Food Systems: Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

Energy & Environmental Protection: Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1412 Agriculture & Food Systems/Economic Development & Technology on S.B. No. 330

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Hawaii Department of Agriculture to enforce quarantines issued by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and one individual. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committees find that protecting Hawaii's agricultural sector from invasive pests and diseases is essential to sustaining local food production and ensuring agricultural resilience. Existing state regulations restricting the importation of certain crops are outdated and do not adequately address the current threats posed by emerging pests and plant diseases. This measure strengthens the State's biosecurity by authorizing the Department of Agriculture to enforce federal pest and disease quarantines, closing a critical gap in agricultural protection and preventing the spread of harmful infestations. However, your Committees also find that certain amendments are necessary to remove provisions that the Department of Agriculture has testified are unnecessary or not aligned with certain standard requirements.

Accordingly, your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying conditions that apply to interstate shipments for entry into the State;
- (2) Deleting certain definitions;
- (3) Adding a definition for "state";
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Agriculture & Food Systems and Economic Development & Technology that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 330, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 330, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Agriculture & Food Systems: Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

Economic Development & Technology: Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1413 Higher Education on S.B. No. 1252

The purpose of this measure is to require and appropriate funds for the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii to establish a specialized training program to educate health care providers on caring for patients having Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the John A. Burns School of Medicine of the University of Hawai'i at Manoa; Alzheimer's Association – Hawaii; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that many healthcare providers rarely receive specialized training on dementia. Standard training on dementia for healthcare providers is often minimal and consists only of basic information.

Your Committee further finds that the University of Hawaii at Manoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine, University of Hawaii's Center for Aging, and University of Hawaii's Thompson School of Social Work and Public Health have been providing courses and actively engaging in educating and training students in Alzheimer's disease and dementia. Your Committee believes that additional staff positions are necessary to provide greater coordination between the various University of Hawaii programs in delivering training in caring for patients with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia.

Your Committee has accordingly amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have required and appropriated funds for the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii to establish a specialized training program to educate health care providers on caring for patients having Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia;
- (2) Inserting language to appropriate funds to the University of Hawaii to establish positions for the University of Hawaii at Manoa John A. Burns School of Medicine's Department of Geriatric Medicine to provide coordination between the University of Hawaii's programs that provide training on Alzheimer's disease and dementia;
- (3) Amending the preamble to reflect its amended purpose;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$525,000 to establish two full-time equivalent positions for the University of Hawaii at Manoa John A. Burns School of Medicine's Department of Geriatric Medicine to provide coordination between the University of Hawaii's programs that provide training on Alzheimer's disease and dementia.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1252, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1252, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Sayama, Woodson).

SCRep. 1414 Higher Education on S.B. No. 657

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to establish and operate the Center for Climate Resilient Development within the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; University of Hawai'i School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology; City and County of Honolulu Office of Climate Change; Ulupono Initiative; Surfrider Foundation Hawai'i Region; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Coalition Earth; Hawai'i Climate Change and Health Working Group; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that the State is vulnerable to climate change and lacks an office or agency that is responsible for developing community resiliency plans. Your Committee further finds that the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology (SOEST) at the University of Hawaii at Manoa has already been working with communities to identify multiple forms of flooding due to sea level rise, hurricane storm surge, heat projections, and leveraging campus-wide expertise in wildfire ignition modeling. Your Committee notes that the work conducted at SOEST has largely been funded by federal grants. Instability, gridlock, and uncertainty in funding from the federal government puts the important work of SOEST at risk of being lost. This measure appropriates funds for the establishment and operation of a Center for Climate Resilient Development within SOEST and will ensure that SOEST's critical research activities continue.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 657, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Muraoka). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Sayama, Woodson).

SCRep. 1415 Health on S.B. No. 479

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend the funding sources of the Hawaii ABLE Savings Program Trust Fund;
- (2) Repeal the Director of Finance's discretionary authority to use monies in the Hawaii ABLE Savings Program Trust Fund under certain circumstances;
- (3) Authorize the Director of Finance to expend monies in the Hawaii ABLE Savings Program Trust Fund to provide incentive payments to ABLE account owners; and
- (4) Appropriate funds for incentive payments and a full-time position to support the Hawaii ABLE Savings Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging; Disability and Communication Access Board; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Special Education Advisory Council; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; Easterseals Hawaii; and six individuals.

Your Committee finds that ABLE savings accounts provide individuals with disabilities the same types of flexible savings accounts that people without disabilities have, such as college savings accounts, health savings accounts, and individual retirement accounts, and give these individuals the ability to accrue savings to pay for a variety of expenses.

Your Committee further finds that approximately twenty-three thousand individuals with developmental disabilities and twenty thousand individuals with other disabilities in the State are eligible to open an ABLE savings account. However, these accounts are currently underutilized as individuals with disabilities and their families are either unaware that the ABLE Savings Program exists or believe that using the Program will endanger any benefits they currently receive. This measure is intended to promote financial independence for individuals with disabilities by incentivizing the use of ABLE savings accounts.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$75,000 for the Hawaii ABLE Savings Program and one full-time equivalent position to administer the Program.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 479, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1416 Health on S.B. No. 532

The purpose of this measure is to authorize public school employees and agents who have completed appropriate training to administer medication for students consistent with standards applicable to school health assistants.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Department of Health; University of Hawai'i at Mānoa School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene; University of Hawai'i at Mānoa John A. Burns School of Medicine; Special Education Advisory Council; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Patriot Republicans and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that, due to increasing vacancies for school health assistants, many public schools experience challenges in meeting the needs of students who are prescribed medications or may benefit from receiving medications in emergency situations while on campus. Your Committee further finds that, as the administration of medication would not constitute a skilled nursing service, public school employees and agents in addition to school health assistants, can receive the training necessary to administer these medications. Your Committee believes that allowing the Department of Education to train staff as an additional resource to support students will ensure continuity of student health services while maintaining student safety.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 532, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Alcos). Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, none.

SCRep. 1417 Health on S.B. No. 1438

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit home health care agencies from providing services outside the scope of their facility license.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Libertarian Party of Hawaii and one individual.

Your Committee finds that some operators of home care agencies provide skilled nursing services to clients that are not rendered by a licensed nurse. Your Committee further finds that because the Board of Nursing may not have the authority to regulate unlicensed providers of nursing care employed by home care agencies, providing the Department of Health with enforcement authority will ensure appropriate services are provided and more effectively ensure patient safety.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1438, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 2 (Alcos, Garcia). Excused, none.

SCRep. 1418 Health on S.B. No. 850

The purpose of this measure is to require, and appropriate funds for, the State Council on Developmental Disabilities to study health disparities experienced by individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities in the State to develop data to inform the State's public health policies and practices.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Wellness and Resilience; University of Hawai'i System; Executive Office on Aging; Disability and Communication Access Board; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; Easterseals Hawaii; and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities experience disproportionate health disparities in comparison to their peers without disabilities. Your Committee further finds that there is a critical lack of information on the health disparities and social determinants of health for individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities in the State, leading to gaps in research, health care, and policies that unnecessarily create challenges for people with intellectual or developmental disabilities. Your Committee believes that there is a pressing need to develop an updated, accurate set of data on the health disparities of individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities and their social determinants of health, including the development of baseline data and prevalence rates, to ensure individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities in Hawaii are provided with appropriate resources, health care, and social services.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$550,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 850, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 850, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1419 Health on S.B. No. 1279

The purpose of this measure is to authorize pharmacists under contract with covered entities under the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program to supervise the filling or receipt of a prescription via telehealth under certain circumstances.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; AlohaCare; Alzheimer's Association-Hawaii; AARP Hawai'i; and one

individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Board of Pharmacy; Rainbow Pharmacy Lanai; and Moloka'i Drugs, Inc.

Your Committee finds that under the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program (340B Program), certain health care organizations are able to receive discounts on prescription drugs. However, in order to receive these discounts, the health care organization must either operate a pharmacy at the location where the prescriptions are filled for distribution or contract with a participating third-party pharmacy to fill and distribute the medications. Your Committee further finds that some neighbor island health care organizations are too small to make employing a full-time pharmacists cost effective. As a result, if the retail pharmacies in those areas choose to not participate in the 340B Program, these health care organizations must contract with off-island pharmacies to fill prescriptions, resulting in delays in patient care. Your Committee believes that authorizing pharmacists to supervise the filling and receipt of prescriptions via telehealth, under certain circumstances, will improve health outcomes in the State's medically underserved areas and ensure patients receive their prescription medication in a timely fashion. Your Committee wishes to encourage community health centers to engage with area pharmacies utilizing the 340B Program to the fullest extent possible to offer in-person pharmacy services.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1279, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1279, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1420 Health on S.B. No. 299

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Healthcare Education Loan Repayment Program to continue to provide loan repayment assistance to health care workers in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Governor; Department of Health; State Health Planning and Development Agency; University of Hawai'i at Mānoa John A. Burns School of Medicine; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawaii Medical Association; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i – American Nurses Association; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Liberty Dialysis-Hawaii'i; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; The Queen's Health Systems; Hawai'i Nurses' Association – OPEIU Local 50; Hawaii Medical Service Association; Hawaii Association of Health Plans; Hawaii Dental Association; Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i; AlohaCare; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that a persistent workforce shortage in Hawaii's health care industry has created difficulties for patients trying to access health care services, in part because of the combination of the State's high cost of living and the large amount of educational debt carried by many health care professionals. Your Committee further finds that the Legislature appropriated a total of \$30,000,000 over the 2024-2025 fiscal biennium to fund a Healthcare Education Loan Repayment Program (HELP), which assists health care professionals in Hawaii with repaying their health care education loans in exchange for a commitment to provide at least two years of health care service to patients in Hawaii.

In 2023, HELP awarded loan repayments to eight hundred ninety health care workers, including two hundred thirty-eight primary care providers and two hundred fifty behavioral health providers, and had approximately one thousand five hundred applicants waitlisted; these waitlisted applicants will be reviewed, and awards will continue to be provided to the extent that funding is available for 2024 applications. The program awarded grants to a wide range of health care providers, including case managers, certified nurse assistants, social workers, registered nurses, and physicians. Your Committee believes that continuing to fund this program will help the State address its health care workforce shortages, encourage health care professionals to remain in the State, and ensure Hawaii's residents receive timely access to health care services.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring applicants for loan repayment assistance to commit to two years of full-time service in the State;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$30,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 299, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 299, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1421 Health on S.B. No. 1323

The purpose of this measure is to update the State's advance health care directive laws by adopting the Uniform Health-Care Decisions Act (2023) in modified form.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Department of the Attorney General; and Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Disability Rights Center and Healthcare Association of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the Uniform Law Commission approved and recommended the Uniform Health-Care Decisions Act (2023) for enactment in all states. Your Committee further finds that although the State's existing laws address advance directives broadly, the Uniform Health-Care Decisions Act (2023) provides a more comprehensive framework for a variety of advance directives, including advance mental health care directives. Your Committee believes that adopting the Uniform Health Care Decisions Act (2023) in modified form will simplify the process to execute an advance health care directive.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the definition of "advanced practice registered nurse";

- (2) Deleting language that established a process for an individual who is the subject of a finding of lack of capacity to object to the finding and required the individual to be treated as having capacity unless certain conditions were met;
- (3) Requiring that a signed declaration from a person who is assuming the authority to act as a default include a statement that the declaration was provided under penalty of law;
- (4) Deleting language that removed the power of an agent or default surrogate to make health care decisions for an individual who is the subject of a finding of lack of capacity if the individual objected to the finding;
- (5) Deleting language that prohibited a default surrogate from making a health care decision under certain conditions;
- (6) Reducing the amount of damages that may be awarded against a health care professional or health care institution for a violation of duties to \$5,000, rather than \$50,000;
- (7) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1323, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1323, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1422 Health on S.B. No. 1452

The purpose of this measure is to update the State's Uniform Controlled Substance Act to make it consistent with amendments to the federal Controlled Substances Act.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement.

Your Committee finds that this measure fulfills the Department of Law Enforcement's statutory obligation to recommend to the Legislature any changes to state law that would correspond to changes in federal law regarding the scheduling of controlled substances.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making additional conforming amendments to conform state law with the federal Controlled Substances Act;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1452, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1452, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1423 Health on S.B. No. 1411

The purpose of this measure is to amend third party liability provisions for Medicaid programs for payment as required under the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that updates to state law are necessary to conform to new third party liability requirements included in the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022. This measure requires certain third-party payers to be responsible for reimbursing Medicaid providers based on the standards of the Medicaid program and prohibits providers from denying payment based on other standards.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1411, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1411, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1424 Health on S.B. No. 1245

The purpose of this measure is to mandate reimbursement for services provided by pharmacists within their scope of practice by private and public health plans in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i at Hilo; Board of Pharmacy; Hep Free Hawaii; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; The Queen's Health Systems; National Community Pharmacists Association; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Walgreen Co.; Hawai'i Pharmacists Association; American Pharmacists Association; The Family Medicine Center; Times Pharmacy; Moloka'i Drugs, Inc.; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Office of the Auditor; Hawaii Medical Service Association; and Hawaii Association of Health Plans.

Your Committee finds that pharmacists are geographically dispersed throughout the State's communities and can bridge the gaps created by the State's physician shortage by educating patients on how and when to check blood sugar, ways to avoid and manage hypoglycemia, how to take their medications correctly to avoid adverse effects, and various medication utilization techniques. Your Committee further finds that the lack of access to pharmacist services

disproportionally affects patient populations in the most isolated areas of the State. Aligning the pharmacist reimbursement practices with the provision of their services, comparable to other health care providers, will allow pharmacies to remain open and enable local pharmacists to continue providing vital care to their patients.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1245, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1245, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1425 Health on S.B. No. 228

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit excited delirium from being:

- (1) Recognized as a valid medical diagnosis or cause of death in the State or stated on a certificate of death or any report as to the cause of death by a local health officer or agent of the Department of Health; and
- (2) Used by a law enforcement officer to describe an individual in an incident report.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; Community Alliance on Prisons; Hui Malama Pono Hawai'i; National Police Accountability Project; ACLU of Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary and Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that "excited delirium" is a term with no medical basis that is used to justify the use of excessive force by some law enforcement officers against individuals experiencing a mental health crisis. Your Committee further finds that "excited delirium" has no consistent definition or diagnostic criteria and is not currently included in the DSM-5, the authoritative classification system for mental health disorders used by medical professionals in the United States. Your Committee believes that the interests of justice and public health and safety dictate that "excited delirium" should not be used for purposes of medical diagnoses or in the context of government or judicial actions.

Your Committee also finds that H.B. No. 36, H.D. 2 (Regular Session of 2025), a substantially similar measure, was previously passed by the House.

Your Committee has amended this measure by deleting its contents and inserting the contents of H.B. No. 36, H.D. 2, a measure that:

- (1) Prohibits excited delirium from being recognized as a valid medical diagnosis or cause of death in the State and places this prohibition in Chapter 327C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to death;
- (2) Prohibits a medical examiner, coroner, or health care provider from stating on a certificate of death or in any report that the cause of death was excited delirium;
- (3) Prohibits law enforcement officers from using the term excited delirium to describe an individual in an incident report;
- (4) Establishes a new Hawaii Rule of Evidence that deems evidence that a person experienced or suffered excited delirium inadmissible in a civil action; and
- (5) Takes effect July 1, 3000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 228, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 228, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Alcos, Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1426 Health/Human Services & Homelessness on S.B. No. 1442

The purpose of this measure is to clarify and update the responsibilities of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division of the Department of Health to reflect the State's current mental health systems of care for children and adolescents.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Wellness and Resilience; Department of Health Child & Adolescent Mental Health Division; State Council on Mental Health; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; and one individual.

Your Committees find that the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division (Division) of the Department of Health is the State's Medicaid provider of intensive mental health services for the State's youth and provides mental health services in coordination and collaboration with other state agencies. Your Committees further find that it has been fifty years since the State's laws on mental health services for children and youth were enacted and the existing laws do not accurately reflect the current role of the Division in addressing the mental health needs of children and adolescents in the State. This measure is intended to clarify the Division's role in delivering mental health services to the State's children and adolescents in a manner that is child- and family-centered, culturally sensitive, and evidence-based.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Health and Human Services & Homelessness that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1442, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1442, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Health: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Human Services & Homelessness: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1427 Public Safety on S.B. No. 414

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to institute proceedings to condemn certain lands in Lahaina to build a new access road from Keawe Street to the Kilohana and Kalaiala sites developed in the Villages of Leialii; and
- (2) Appropriate funds out of the Major Disaster Fund for appraisals and other preparations necessary to institute the condemnation proceedings.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; and Maui Chamber of Commerce. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that the emergency temporary housing for survivors of the 2023 Maui wildfires is constructed above existing residential subdivisions. Your Committee further finds that significant community concern exists about increased traffic and congestion in these areas. Your Committee also finds that this measure would enhance transportation efficiency and public safety.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Department of Transportation, rather than the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation, to institute the condemnation proceedings; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 414, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 414, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1428 Public Safety on S.B. No. 1381

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow the head of the Hawaii Air National Guard to hold the rank authorized by the United States Department of the Air Force, which is currently major general;
- (2) Provide the Adjutant General with the flexibility to assign either the Chief of Staff or the Assistant Adjutant General to lead the Hawaii Air National Guard; and
- (3) Authorize the pay and allowances for the Chief of Staff of the Hawaii Air National Guard to be determined according to the pay tables of the regular Air Force of the United States.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Defense; Hawaii Air National Guard; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that this measure provides the Adjutant General with the flexibility to appoint either the Chief of Staff or the Assistant Adjutant General to head the Hawaii Air National Guard. Your Committee further finds that this measure will clarify the chain of command as well as administrative and operational taskings.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1381, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1429 Public Safety on S.B. No. 422

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Department of Education to establish a program to award a high school diploma to a qualified person who did not receive a high school diploma as a result of compulsory or voluntary induction into active service in the armed services of the United States or whose high school education was interrupted due to wartime practices during World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Military Affairs Council and Chamber of Commerce Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that compulsory or voluntary induction into active service in the armed services of the United States and the implementation of other wartime practices caused the interruption of many individuals' education. Your Committee further finds that the establishment of a program to award high school diplomas to these persons recognizes their service and sacrifice.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 422, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1430 Public Safety on S.B. No. 371

The purpose of this measure is to establish the offense of criminal property damage to critical infrastructure facilities in the first and second degree.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Maui; Charter Communications; Hawaiian Electric; CTIA; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that modern life increasingly relies on the electrical grid to provide power for essential services, such as respiratory devices, temperature control, and emergency response, as well as other public and private systems, such as gas, water, and telecommunications networks. This heightened reliance makes the State very vulnerable to any criminal act that damages this infrastructure. Although existing laws may address particular actions or impose specific penalties, as a whole, they do not deal with a scenario in which a bad actor intentionally or knowingly damages critical infrastructure.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing "reckless" and "negligent" as mental states in the proposed offense of criminal property damage to critical infrastructure facilities in the first and second degree; and
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 371, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 371, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto, Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1431 Public Safety on S.B. No. 1379

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Community Readiness Centers Program to be implemented and administered by the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency;
- (2) Establish the Community Readiness Centers Special Fund to fund the Community Readiness Centers Program;
- (3) Rename the Environmental Response, Energy, and Food Security Tax to the Environmental Response, Energy, Food Security, and Resilience Tax and directs a portion of the tax into the Community Readiness Centers Special Fund; and
- (4) Appropriate funds to acquire lands for Community Readiness Centers and for an emergency operations center.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Climate Hawai'i; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii County Civil Defense Agency. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Disability and Communication Access Board; Kaua'i Emergency Management Agency; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that as natural disasters become more frequent, it is vital to have centralized locations where communities across the State can access essential support, information, supplies, and health and medical services during and after emergencies. Your Committee further finds that this measure takes a proactive approach to preparing the people of Hawaii for natural disasters and other emergencies.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to develop, rather than provide, a selection criteria matrix of standards necessary for constructing community readiness centers;
- (2) Adding the Hawaii Advisory Council on Emergency Management and county emergency management administrators as parties to be consulted by the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency in its development of a selection criteria matrix of standards necessary for constructing community readiness centers, including identifying geographic areas where community readiness center sites would be able to withstand natural disasters;
- (3) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to appropriate \$10,800,000 for the initial design of four community readiness center sites and \$1,200,000 for contract support, for a total appropriation of \$12,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1379, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1379, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto, Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1432 Public Safety/Water & Land on S.B. No. 223

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to establish an independent program relating to the prevention, control, and extinguishment of wildland fires within forest reserves;
- (2) Authorize the Administrator of the Division of Forestry and Wildlife of the Department of Land and Natural Resources to establish and maintain facilities for the performance of fire protection, fire prevention, pest control, and forest and range protection and enhancement activities;
- (3) Require the State Fire Council to amend the State Fire Code to require certain owners and occupants of properties located in hazardous fire areas to maintain effective firebreaks and to practice other fire prevention activities; and
- (4) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to establish and implement a Community Fuels Reduction Project to reduce hazardous wildfire fuels on state lands, particularly those adjacent to communities.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Education and Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committees find that adopting strategies and practices to prevent and control wildfires, including establishing firebreaks and reducing hazardous wildfire fuels, will help limit the occurrence and rapid spread of wildfires. Your Committees further find that this measure takes a proactive approach to protect the State's communities from the devastation caused by wildfires.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Authorizing the Department of Land and Natural Resources to perform fuel reduction on lands not set aside to the Department;
- (2) Allowing, rather than requiring, the State Fire Council to amend the State Fire Code to require that every owner or other person having charge of or control over any building, structure, or other premises or any holder of an easement located in a hazardous fire area to maintain effective firebreaks and to practice other fire prevention activities; and
- (3) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committees respectfully request your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider appropriating \$10,000,000 for the Division of Forestry and Wildlife of the Department of Land and Natural Resources to undertake fire prevention, control, and reduction work statewide.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Public Safety and Water & Land that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 223, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 223, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Public Safety: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

Water & Land: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1433 Legislative Management on S.B. No. 1545

The purpose of this measure is to repeal language in the State's Code of Ethics that exempts the legislative branch from prohibitions against nepotism in public employment.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Ethics Commission and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that under existing law, the hiring, supervision, and contractual engagements of relatives or household members are generally restricted for most state employees to prevent conflicts of interest and improper favoritism. However, these statutory provisions do not currently extend to legislative and judicial branch employees, thereby creating a regulatory inconsistency that could undermine public confidence in the integrity of legislative operations. This measure subjects legislative branch employees to the same ethical standards applicable to other state employees. Your Committee further finds that judicial branch employees should also be subject to prohibitions against nepotism. Amendments to this measure are therefore needed so that nepotism is prohibited within all three branches of state government.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Repealing language that exempts the judicial branch from prohibitions against nepotism in public employment;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Legislative Management that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1545, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1545, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Matsumoto).

SCRep. 1434 Housing on S.B. No. 79

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to determine the effect of any proposed housing project that may affect a historical property, an aviation artifact, or a burial site within ninety days of a request for determination;
- (2) Establish historic review requirements based on the project area's known historic, cultural, and archaeological resources; and
- (3) Establish procedures and notification requirements if previously unidentified human remains or previously unidentified historic or cultural resources are discovered during archaeological monitoring or housing project construction.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; and NAIOP Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that lengthy and backlogged historic preservation reviews prevent the timely development of affordable housing and drive up its costs. This measure would enable affordable housing units to be built at a faster pace and for a lower cost by creating a separate historic review process for certain proposed state affordable housing projects.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 79, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 79, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Kitagawa, Pierick).

SCRep. 1435 Housing on S.B. No. 1170

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the director of a county planning department to issue a special management area use permit to an applicant that is redeveloping permanent affordable multi-family rental housing that has been substantially destroyed as the result of certain types of disasters that have been proclaimed by the Governor to constitute a state of emergency, under certain conditions;
- (2) Require land use entitlements under Maui County Ordinance No. 2120 (1992), including waivers of state and county law, administrative rules, or ordinances relating to planning, zoning, and construction standards to remain applicable to future housing developments; and
- (3) Permit county planning departments to amend or modify final plans and specifications for redevelopment of experimental and demonstration housing projects that have been substantially destroyed, with certain restrictions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Hale Mahaolu; Pacific Commercial Realty Corp.; KCOM Corp.; Green Party Hawai'i; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Lāhainā Strong; and numerous individuals. 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 the Maui wildfires caused substantial destruction to a significant amount of affordable multi-family rental housing, leaving many residents displaced and in need of stable housing solutions. Rebuilding efforts are often delayed by regulatory and permitting processes, which can hinder the

timely restoration of essential housing for affected communities. This measure streamlines the redevelopment process by allowing county planning departments to issue special management area use permits for rebuilding affordable multi-family rental housing and ensuring that project approvals remain valid, facilitating efficient and resilient reconstruction efforts.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Codifying the provisions of this measure under the Special Management Areas part of the Coastal Zone Management law instead of in session law;
- (2) Removing flooding and tsunami from the types of disasters that would make a destroyed property eligible for redevelopment under this measure;
- (3) Requiring any other state or county agency authorized to issue a permit or approval, in addition to the department of planning of the respective county, to prioritize approving permits to redevelop permanent affordable multi-family rental housing after issuing a special management area use permit;
- (4) Clarifying that affordable multi-family rental housing projects within the special management area that are being redeveloped and are located on properties or districts on the Hawaii or National Historic Register, rather than special management area use permits, are exempt from environmental impact statement requirements;
- (5) Deleting language that would have made land use entitlements under Maui County Ordinance No. 2120 (1992) applicable to future housing developments;
- (6) Clarifying and expanding the conditions and procedures for experimental and demonstration housing projects destroyed by certain natural disasters;
- (7) Exempting certain parcels from the provisions of this measure; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1170, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1170, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Kitagawa, Pierick).

SCRep. 1436 Human Services & Homelessness on S.B. No. 1520

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an exemption from mediation in paternity proceedings where there are allegations of domestic abuse;
- (2) Permit an alleged victim to have a supporting person of the alleged victim's choice in attendance at mediation, and, if the alleged victim exercises this option, permitting any other party to the mediation to also have a supporting person in attendance at mediation; and
- (3) Clarify the exemption from mediation in divorce proceedings as it relates to domestic abuse.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women; Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Commission to Promote Uniform Laws; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that requiring mediation in paternity and custody disputes involving allegations of domestic abuse can place survivors in unsafe and distressing situations. Mediation may instead become a means for abusers to exert control, creating an environment that compromises the survivor's emotional and psychological well-being. This measure addresses these concerns by exempting individuals alleging domestic abuse from mandatory mediation in paternity cases and reinforcing similar protections in divorce proceedings. By ensuring that mediation is only conducted in circumstances that prioritize victim safety, this measure strengthens legal protections for survivors and prevents the legal process from being used as a tool for further abuse.

However, your Committee has heard the concerns raised in testimony by the Department of the Attorney General, that certain provisions in this measure differ from the existing Uniform Mediation Act under state law. Specifically, the Department of the Attorney General noted that the provisions enabling the alleged victim to bring a supportive person to mediation, but not other parties unless the alleged victim chooses to exercise this option first, could lead to confusion or an unfair result.

Your Committee also finds that the companion to this measure, H.B. No. 1283, H.D. 2 (Regular Session of 2025), was previously passed by the House.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting its contents and inserting the contents of H.B. 1283, H.D. 2, a measure that:
 - (A) Establishes an exemption from mediation in paternity proceedings where there are allegations of domestic abuse; and
 - (B) Clarifies the exemption from mediation in divorce proceedings as it relates to domestic abuse;
- (2) Removing provisions enabling an alleged victim to bring a supportive person to mediation, but not other parties, unless the alleged victim chooses to exercise this option first, in divorce proceedings;
- (3) Changing the effective date to upon its approval; and
- (4) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1520, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1520, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Takenouchi).

SCRep. 1437 Education/Higher Education on S.B. No. 1585

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish and implement evidence-based performance metrics for the Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education to allow better evidence-based assessments for its workforce and pathway development programs; and

- (2) Authorize the expenditure of Perkins V federal funds for the Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education Office to establish and implement evidence-based assessments of its workforce and pathway development programs.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Education; Department of the Attorney General; Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; University of Hawai'i Community Colleges; and Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for Education.

Your Committees find that state departments are experiencing difficulty in filling positions with qualified candidates because of a workforce shortage. Your Committees further find that the Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education can help to meet the vocational needs of the departments. Your Committees believe that evidence-based performance metrics must be established to measure the development of Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education programs and ensure that state funds are appropriately expended for the development of students in equipping them with the technical skills and academic knowledge that is needed for employment.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Education and Higher Education that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1585, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1585, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Education: Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Evslin).

Higher Education: Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Evslin).

SCRep. 1438 Education on S.B. No. 440

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a Future Career and Technical Education Teacher Scholarship Program, to be administered by the Department of Education, to facilitate the recruitment and retention of career and technical education teachers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and Chamber of Commerce Hawaii. Your Committee received testimony in support of the intent of this measure from the Department of Education and Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committee finds that the establishment of a Future Career and Technical Education Teacher Scholarship Program will increase recruitment for quality career and technical education teachers and enhance the education of students who will develop into highly skilled members of the State's workforce.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 440, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 440, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Evslin).

SCRep. 1439 Education on S.B. No. 894

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Education for statewide regional kitchen expansion to fulfill the Department's statutory mandate to provide farm to school meals that consist of at least thirty percent locally sourced products.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Department of Agriculture; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Agribusiness Development Corporation; University of Hawai'i at Mānoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that school food programs serve an essential function in providing meals to students and improving the health of Hawaii's students through nutritious and fresh, locally grown foods. Your Committee further finds that schools are experiencing difficulties in providing meals to students, including outdated equipment and limited space to handle fresh food products effectively. This measure appropriates funds to the Department of Education for statewide regional kitchen expansion which will streamline food processing and utilize labor more effectively, thereby ensuring that students will receive quality school meals made with fresh and local ingredients.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 894, S.D. 3, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Evslin).

SCRep. 1440 Education on S.B. No. 1391

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Education for teacher-requested classroom supplies.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that nationwide, teachers spend an average of \$500 out of pocket on their classrooms each year. This measure appropriates funds to the Department of Education to provide teachers with their requested classroom supplies and alleviate the financial burden on teachers in acquiring their own supplies.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1391, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1391, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Evslin).

SCRep. 1441 Education on S.B. No. 819

The purpose of this measure is to require the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board to establish an international teacher license for certain visa holders and criteria for obtaining and renewing an international teacher license.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board.

Your Committee finds that the BridgeUSA J-1 visa program, administered by the United States Department of State, offers foreign teachers an opportunity to teach in accredited schools in the United States that service students in grades kindergarten through twelve. The J-1 visa program has been of great success since its implementation, especially in bringing educators from the Philippines to Hawaii, with international teachers serving in fifty-five public schools statewide. However, the State's existing licensing rules hinder the full potential of prospective teachers for the J-1 visa program. This measure will recognize the qualifications and experience of international educators, while ensuring equitable compensation, and fully leverage the skills, knowledge, and experience of international educators.

Your Committee further finds that the companion to this measure, H.B. No. 439, H.D. 1 (Regular Session of 2025) was previously passed by this Committee.

Your Committee has amended this measure by deleting its contents and inserting the contents of H.B. 439, H.D. 1, a measure that:

- (1) Requires the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board to establish an international teacher license for certain visa holders and the requirements to obtain the international teacher license;
- (2) Requires the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board to submit a report to the Legislature prior to the 2026 Regular Session on how to support international teachers teaching in the State through the J-1 visa program; and
- (3) Takes effect on July 1, 3000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 819, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 819, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Amato). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Evslin).

SCRep. 1442 Economic Development & Technology on S.B. No. 328

The purpose of this measure is to establish an income tax credit for capital infrastructure costs incurred in the conversion of a dairy farm to a hog farm.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and Hawai'i Food+ Policy. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that revitalizing Hawaii's agricultural sector through strategic investments in farm infrastructure will strengthen the local economy, support food security, and promote sustainable farming practices. By providing financial incentives for dairy farm retrofits, this measure will encourage the modernization of facilities, enhance operational efficiency, and reduce financial barriers for agricultural businesses to transition to hog farming and increase local pork production.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 328, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1443 Economic Development & Technology on S.B. No. 890

The purpose of this measure is to require any products labeled, marketed, or sold as "poi" to contain a label stating whether the poi product is made wholly from kalo grown in the State or from kalo sourced outside the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club; Ko'olau Foundation; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that poi is a culturally significant staple food in Hawaii, deeply rooted in Native Hawaiian traditions and identity. Consumers and local farmers benefit from clear and transparent labeling that distinguishes between poi made from kalo grown in Hawaii and poi made from kalo sourced from outside the State. By ensuring proper labeling, this measure will support Hawaii's agricultural industry, protect the authenticity of local poi, and provide consumers with accurate information about the origin of their food.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 890, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1444 Economic Development & Technology on S.B. No. 338

The purpose of this measure is to temporarily reinstate the technology infrastructure renovation tax credit and expand the definition of "technology-enabled infrastructure" to include data servers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Charter Communications; Servpac; and Hawaiian Telecom. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that modernizing technology infrastructure, particularly data servers, is crucial to ensuring resilience against cyber threats and weather-related disruptions. Recent outages affecting state agencies and Hawaii businesses highlight the need for investment in reliable data storage and management systems. This measure encourages upgrades to technology infrastructure that will enhance data security and operational stability.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 338, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 338, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1445 Economic Development & Technology on S.B. No. 1186

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Statewide Interagency Food Systems Coordination Team and an Interagency Food Systems Working Group within the Agribusiness Development Corporation; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for staff within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Office of Economic Revitalization of the City and County of Honolulu; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai‘i; Office of Climate Change, Sustainability, and Resiliency of the City and County of Honolulu; Hawai‘i Foodbank; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai‘i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Hawai‘i Alliance for Progressive Action; O‘ahu Resource Conservation & Development Council; Hawai‘i Food+ Policy; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Hawai‘i Farm Bureau; Hawai‘i Public Health Institute; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council; Hawaii Youth Food Council; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency.

Your Committee finds that a strong and resilient food system is essential to Hawaii's economic sustainability, disaster preparedness, and long-term self-sufficiency. Your Committee further finds that achieving a sustainable and resilient food system requires collaboration across state agencies, producers, retailers, non-governmental organizations, and community members. This measure helps facilitate a coordinated, interagency approach to addressing food system challenges.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Designating the members of the Interagency Food Systems Working Group;
- (2) Clarifying that the appropriation will be used for three temporary positions and operating costs for the Statewide Interagency Food Systems Coordination Team and Interagency Food Systems Working Group; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$380,000, allocated as follows:

- (1) \$120,000 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) temporary food systems specialist position;
- (2) \$100,000 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) temporary policy analyst position;
- (3) \$60,000 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) temporary administrative assistant position; and
- (4) \$100,000 for operating costs for the Statewide Interagency Food Systems Coordination Team and Interagency Food Systems Working Group.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1186, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1186, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1446 Economic Development & Technology on S.B. No. 742

The purpose of this measure is to establish a Data Sharing and Governance Working Group within the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Senior Advisor for Mental Health and the Justice System to the Governor; Office of Wellness and Resilience; Executive Office on Early Learning; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Department of Human Services; Department of Health; Office of Enterprise Technology Services; Hawai‘i State Commission on the Status of Women; Hawai‘i Data Collaborative; Workforce Development Council; HawaiiKidsCAN; and Hawai‘i Workforce Funders Collaborative. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai‘i System.

Your Committee finds that a lack of coordinated data sharing is limiting the State's ability to address its affordability crisis, workforce needs, and economic development goals. Strengthening data governance will enable better decision-making, increase efficiency, and help the State retain its residents by improving education and employment outcomes. Other states have successfully reformed their data systems to improve cross-agency collaboration, providing a model for Hawaii to follow.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding the Executive Director of the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women, or the Executive Director's designee, as a member of the Data Sharing and Governance Working Group;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 742, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 742, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1447 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 104

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Restrict the use of restrictive housing in state-operated and state-contracted correctional facilities, with certain specified exceptions;
- (2) Require the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to develop written policies and implement procedures regarding restrictive housing by July 1, 2026;
- (3) Require the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission to thoroughly review certain housing placements;
- (4) Require the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, by April 1, 2026, to develop written policies and implement procedures to review committed persons' placement in restrictive housing and initiate reviews and develop a plan regarding restrictive housing for committed persons; and
- (5) Require the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to submit a report to the Legislature and Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission no later than forty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission; Office of the Public Defender; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; Community Alliance on Prisons; Easterseals Hawaii; ACLU Hawai'i; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

Your Committee finds that there are insufficient restrictions, policies, and procedures on the use of restrictive housing in the State. Your Committee believes that this measure addresses this need by limiting certain restrictive housing practices and requiring the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to develop policies and procedures for restrictive housing.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the prohibition on releasing a committed person held in solitary confinement directly into the community during the final one hundred eighty days shall not be interpreted to delay a committed person's scheduled release;
- (2) Clarifying that a committed person's placement in restrictive housing; rather than restrictive, disciplinary, or administrative segregation; shall not revert to another form of segregation after the initial sanction has been served; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 104, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 104, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1448 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 662

The purpose of this measure is to authorize county police officers to enforce the Statewide Traffic Code on all public streets, roadways, and highways within the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that authorizing county police officers to enforce the Statewide Traffic Code on all public streets, roadways, and highways within Hawaii is crucial for ensuring consistent and effective traffic law enforcement across the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 662, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 662, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1449 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 763

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an Agricultural Enforcement Program within the Department of Law Enforcement;
- (2) Establish the Agricultural Enforcement Special Fund; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for and establish positions within the Agricultural Enforcement Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the establishment of the Agricultural Enforcement Program will increase protections for agricultural communities and builds upon the Department of Law Enforcement's collaboration with stakeholders in local agriculture to address agricultural crimes effectively. The proposed Agricultural Enforcement Program will be able to deploy specialized law enforcement positions across the State to prevent, investigate, and combat agricultural theft and related crimes, thereby preserving Hawaii's agricultural sector and ensuring the security of local food production infrastructure.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Defining "deputy director" to mean the Deputy Director of Law Enforcement in regard to the Agricultural Enforcement Program;

- (2) Clarifying that Agricultural Enforcement Special Fund expenditures relating to:
 - (A) Maintenance functions shall be authorized and deemed necessary by the Deputy Director of Law Enforcement, rather than the Department of Agriculture; and
 - (B) Funding for consultants or contractual hires related to certain matters shall be determined by the Deputy Director of Law Enforcement, rather than the Department of Agriculture; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 763, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 763, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1450 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 825

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) For a one-year pilot period beginning on February 5, 2026:
 - (A) Extend the required period for notice of termination for failure to pay rent from five business days to ten calendar days;
 - (B) Require landlords, or their agents, and tenants to engage in mediation and require landlords or their agents to delay filing an action for summary possession if a tenant schedules mediation;
 - (C) Require landlords, or their agents, and tenants to be responsible for their own attorneys' fees and costs in prelitigation mediation, unless the tenant defaults on a mediated agreement; and
 - (D) Require landlords or their agents to provide specific information in the ten-calendar-day notice to tenants; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the Judiciary to contract for mediation services.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Department of Human Services; Mediation Center of the Pacific; Ku'ikahi Mediation Center; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Mediation Centers of Hawaii; and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii State Bar Association Collection Law Section and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS.

Your Committee finds that many people in the State continue to face challenges paying their rent due to the ever-increasing costs of housing. In an effort to reduce evictions and facilitate mediation, the Legislature enacted Act 57, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021 (Act 57), which modified notice requirements for residential summary possession proceedings, mandated pre-filing mediation, and made funding available for pre-filing mediation services and rent relief through subsidies. Your Committee believes that Act 57 was successful in avoiding evictions, thereby keeping people in homes and ensuring landlords received their rent payments. Despite its success, Act 57 ended on August 6, 2022. Your Committee believes the success of Act 57 merits the continuation of a similar eviction mediation program.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 825, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 825, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1451 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1249

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an Agricultural Crime Prevention Program within the Department of Agriculture to provide grants, education, administrative enforcement, and other services for the benefit of the State's agricultural industry;
- (2) Clarify, create, and strengthen laws regarding crimes and violations related to agriculture or agricultural lands and hunting on private agricultural lands;
- (3) Establish clear distinctions between administrative and criminal penalties; and
- (4) Appropriate funds for certain positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Ohana Unity Party; and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Budget and Finance; and Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.

Your Committee finds that weak enforcement mechanisms and resource shortages related to agricultural crime have hindered effective crime prevention and prosecution, allowing repeat offenses to persist with limited legal consequences. To combat these issues, this measure creates an Agricultural Crime Prevention Program within the Department of Agriculture, offering financial support for security upgrades, expanding crime prevention education, and fostering stronger law enforcement partnerships.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Designating the measure as "Duke's Law" in memory of Cranston "Duke" Pia and amending the preamble;
- (2) Amending the sentencing requirements for a conviction of the offense of habitual agricultural crime;
- (3) Amending the definition of "brand" as it relates to livestock branding;
- (4) Establishing additional livestock inspectors and a veterinary medical officer in the Department of Agriculture, instead of a specialized unit of brand inspectors;
- (5) Amending the requirements for livestock inspection before slaughter;

- (6) Clarifying that brand registration fees shall be deposited into the Brand Inspection Special Fund;
- (7) Clarifying that the performance of the Department of Agriculture's duties is administrative;
- (8) Amending the penalties for violations of the chapter related to animals, brands, and fences;
- (9) Allowing a livestock ownership and movement certificate to be electronically transmitted to the Department of Agriculture when livestock is sold or transported, and deleting language that would have required a copy of the certificate to be presented upon request to a brand inspector, instead of a law enforcement officer;
- (10) Clarifying that the penalty for a violation of the law related to livestock ownership or movement only applies upon the sale of livestock, transport of livestock to slaughter, or transport of livestock interisland or interstate;
- (11) Increasing the penalty from a petty misdemeanor to a misdemeanor for causing an animal to commit trespass by opening a gateway, breaking a fence, or driving or leading the animal into another locality;
- (12) Deleting language that would have made it a misdemeanor for dog owners to neglect or refuse to take certain actions when their dog trespasses on private property and causes property damage;
- (13) Deleting language that would have amended the penalties for various wildlife offenses, including hunting on private property, and instead establishing penalties and requirements specifically for hunting on agricultural lands;
- (14) Amending the penalties for criminal trespass on agricultural land; and
- (15) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1249, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1249, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1452 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1009

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a state reserved parking space enforcement fine for the unauthorized use of parking spaces reserved for persons with disabilities or electric vehicles, to be deposited into the Safe Routes to School Program Special Fund; and
- (2) Increase the fines for any person who parks a non-electric vehicle in a space designated and marked for electric vehicles.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Disability and Communication Access Board; Ulupono Initiative; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association; Retail Merchants of Hawaii; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Hawaiian Electric; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services; Department of Budget and Finance; and Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice.

Your Committee finds that proper enforcement of parking spaces for persons with disabilities and electric vehicle charging is crucial to ensure access for legitimate users and support the adoption of electric vehicles for a sustainable future.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the state reserved parking enforcement fine to \$25, rather than \$100;
- (2) Removing the increase of the fines for any person who parks a non-electric vehicle in a space designated and marked as reserved for electric vehicles or parks any vehicle in a parking space equipped with an electric vehicle charging system while not actively charging;
- (3) Specifying that a fine shall not be imposed on a person who parks a non-electric vehicle in a space designated and marked as reserved for electric vehicles if the charging system is inoperable or broken; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1009, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1009, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1453 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1324

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an adjudication system and procedures to process fireworks infractions;
- (2) Amend and establish various definitions and penalties for fireworks offenses, including establishing heightened penalties under certain circumstances;
- (3) Establish various criminal offenses and penalties related to fireworks or articles pyrotechnics; and
- (4) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Department of the Attorney General; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Maui; Hawai'i Police Department; Honolulu Police Department; Animal Rights Hawai'i; Pearl City Neighborhood Board No. 21; Hawaiian Humane Society; O'ahu County Committee of O'ahu County Democrats; and eight individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Libertarian Party of Hawaii; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; Phantom Fireworks; and TNT Fireworks.

Your Committee finds that it has been difficult for state and county agencies to enforce or prosecute illegal fireworks cases in the State due to challenges with gathering evidence, meeting the high burden of proof necessary for convictions, and stringent definitions. This measure would largely address the concerns raised by prosecutors and provide greater clarity and efficiency for law enforcement, prosecutors, and the courts.

Your Committee further finds that H.B. No. 1483, H.D. 1 (Regular Session of 2025), a substantially similar measure, was previously passed by the House. Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting its contents and inserting the contents of H.B. No. 1483, H.D. 1, a measure that:
 - (A) Establishes an adjudication system and procedures to process fireworks infractions;
 - (B) Amends multiple definitions and penalties for fireworks offense, including heightened penalties if another person suffers substantial bodily injury, serious bodily injury, or death as a result of the fireworks offense;
 - (C) Establishes various criminal offenses and penalties related to fireworks or articles pyrotechnics;
 - (D) Appropriates funds; and
 - (E) Contains an effective date of July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion;
- (2) Specifying that the prohibition for any person to purchase, possess, set off, ignite, discharge, or otherwise cause to explode consumer fireworks shall not limit the ability of licensed retailers to store and transport consumer fireworks;
- (3) Changing the duration a person is prohibited from distributing consumer fireworks from five days to seven days before time periods allowed under law;
- (4) Deleting language that would have authorized a person to purchase a maximum of fifty permits for consumer fireworks, aerial devices, articles pyrotechnic, or display fireworks; and
- (5) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1324, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1324, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1454 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1667

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Subject vehicles stopped on and blocking any marked crosswalk, with or without signs or curb markings, to a fine no greater than \$500;
- (2) Expand the penalties for reckless driving of a vehicle or riding of animals;
- (3) Require a person to surrender their license to a law enforcement officer if they continue to refuse to submit to a breath, blood, or urine test;
- (4) Increase the duration of the suspension of a license when a person is arrested for driving under the influence and refuses to submit to a breath or blood test;
- (5) Establish requirements for the State Highway Safety and Modernization Council;
- (6) Authorize the State Highway Safety and Modernization Council to select potential areas for the Department of Transportation to install additional photo red light imaging detector systems;
- (7) Require the Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee to identify ten of the most dangerous school zones and authorize the Department of Transportation or county agencies to install additional automated speed enforcement systems at those locations;
- (8) Require any expansion of the Photo Red Light Imaging Detector Systems Program or Automatic Speed Enforcement Systems Program to account of its impact on district courts;
- (9) Require design features and speeds for certain highways to be determined by the National Association of City Transportation Officials' standards or American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials' standards; and
- (10) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; and Hawaii Applesseed Center for Law & Economic Justice. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary.

Your Committee finds that improving road safety is essential to protecting pedestrians, drivers, and communities across the State. However, your Committee notes that the drastic increases in penalties set forth in this measure, as currently drafted, may result in disproportionate consequences for individuals who refuse to submit to certain tests. While your Committee acknowledges the importance of addressing reckless driving and refusing to submit to certain testing, it also recognizes the need to prevent an overwhelming burden on the judicial system to ensure a more efficient and effective legal process.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have:
 - (A) Expanded the penalties for reckless driving of a vehicle or riding of animals;
 - (B) Required a person to surrender their license to a law enforcement office if they continue to refuse to submit to a breath, blood, or urine test; and
 - (C) Increased the duration of the suspension of a license when a person is arrested for driving under the influence and refuses to submit to a breath or blood test;
- (2) Codifying the following provisions into the appropriate chapters of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, rather than placing them in session law:
 - (A) Language requiring design features and speeds for certain state highways to be determined by the National Association of City Transportation Officials' standards or American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials' standards;
 - (B) Language establishing requirements for the State Highway Safety and Modernization Council, including authorizing the State Highway Safety and Modernization Council to select potential areas for the Department of Transportation to install additional photo red light imaging detector systems;
 - (C) Language requiring the Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee to identify ten of the most dangerous school zones and authorizing the Department of Transportation or county agencies to install additional automated speed enforcement systems at those locations; and

- (D) Language requiring any expansion of the Photo Red Light Imaging Detector Systems Program or Automatic Speed Enforcement Systems Program to account for the impact on district courts;
- (3) Changing the date when the Photo Red Light Imaging Detector Systems Program and Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program are prohibited from issuing citations for locations selected under this measure from January 1, 2027, to July 1, 2027;
- (4) Extending the duration of the Photo Red Light Imaging Detector Systems Program or Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program are required to provide for the courts to collaborate with the Department of Transportation when an expansion of either program identifies an impact on the district courts from six months to twelve months; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1667, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1667, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1455 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 224

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to:

- (1) In collaboration with various agencies and upon request of the inmates, assist inmates in obtaining their civil identification card, birth certificate, social security card, and other relevant identification necessary for successful reentry into society, as soon as practicable, but no later than one year before the inmate's parole or release date; and
- (2) Initiate the process of obtaining identification documents for inmates released to work furlough, extended furlough, or community placement programs, by providing the forms necessary for the inmate to obtain civil identification cards and other identification documents to the inmate as soon as practicable, but no later than ninety days before the inmate's release date.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission; Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; Office of the Public Defender; Community Alliance on Prisons; Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation has made progress in collaborating with agencies, including the counties and Social Security Administration, and facilitating access to identification documents. However, there are still significant gaps in informing individuals in custody about available assistance, prioritizing support for those within one year of release, adhering to prescribed timelines, and providing forms in the individual's primary language. This measure will improve the timeliness in which individuals in custody are informed of and receive departmental assistance in obtaining applicable identification documents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 224, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 224, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1456 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 252

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify that the importation of any pest or material infested or infected with an insect or other animal, disease, or pest is prohibited;
- (2) Authorize the Department of Agriculture to administratively inspect, without good cause, any article imported or moved into the State from the continental United States or between the Hawaiian Islands;
- (3) Prohibit the sale, barter, or donation of material that is a pest or is infested with a pest;
- (4) Authorize the Department of Agriculture to compel the quarantine, treatment, or destruction of certain materials; and
- (5) Clarify penalties for various quarantine and import law violations, based in part on whether violations were knowingly committed.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Forest Industry Association; Big Island Invasive Species Committee; Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Windward Coalition; and seven individuals.

Your Committee finds that invasive species continue to pose a significant risk to Hawaii's economy, environment, and public health. This measure strengthens the State's biosecurity system by enhancing monitoring, tightening import regulations, and expanding early detection efforts to prevent the introduction of invasive species.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Authorizing the Department of Agriculture to provide access to certain items or materials for research or testing;
- (2) Clarifying the state of mind requirements for certain violations of prohibited animal or plant importation laws; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 252, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 252, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1457 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 307

The purpose of this measure is to establish the right of a person to record law enforcement activities and a private right of action for any violation of the right to record law enforcement activities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Public First Law Center; All Hawaii News; ACLU of Hawai'i; Big Island Press Club; Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii; Ohana Unity Party; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that this measure codifies the constitutional right to record police activity, as recognized by the Hawaii Supreme Court in *State v. Russo*, 141 Haw. 181 (2017). This measure would also promote police accountability by creating a statutory right of action.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 307, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 307, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1458 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 353

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit the Governor or a mayor from suspending agency response deadlines for certain public records or vital records or statistics during a state of emergency;
- (2) Add a definition of the term "severe warning";
- (3) Limit the authority of the Governor or a mayor to suspend laws during states of emergency; and
- (4) Allow the Legislature and county councils to terminate, by an affirmative two-thirds vote, a state of emergency, in whole or in part, issued by the Governor or a mayor, respectively.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Society of Professional Journalists Hawaii Chapter; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Public First Law Center; Libertarian Party of Hawaii; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Human Services and Department of Defense. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Information Practices and one individual.

Your Committee finds that prohibiting the suspension of requests for certain public records and vital statistics by the Governor or county mayors during a state of emergency will ensure transparency in government related activities during a period when the publication of information is critical.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Governor or a mayor is prohibited from suspending agency response deadlines for all public records during a state of emergency;
- (2) Changing the defined term "severe warning" to "severe weather warning", as used in chapter 127A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to emergency management;
- (3) Deleting language that would have amended when the governor assumes direct operational control over all or any part of the emergency management functions within an affected area;
- (4) Clarifying that a county council may terminate a state of emergency declared by a mayor by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members to which the council is entitled; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 353, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 353, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1459 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 816

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Due Process in Immigration Proceedings Program to provide legal representation to individuals in immigration-related proceedings in immigration court.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Pride at Work - Hawai'i; Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; The Legal Clinic; Refugee & Immigration Law Clinic; Save Medicaid Hawaii; ACLU of Hawai'i; UNITE HERE Local 5; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Af3irm Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaii Patriot Republicans; Hawaiian Islands Republican Women; and seven individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary and one individual.

Your Committee finds that many individuals in the State may be facing a complex and costly process of deportation or other immigration-related proceedings in the coming years. Often, these individuals do not have the resources, legal training, or language skills to properly respond in these proceedings. Your Committee further finds that the establishment of a Due Process in Immigration Proceedings program will provide immigrants who are residents of the State with the needed support to navigate the complex legal issues in immigration-related proceedings.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the purpose of the Due Process in Immigration Proceedings Program shall be to provide legal representation to individuals residing in the State who are facing immigration-related proceedings; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 816, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 816, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1460 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1221

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the counties to adopt ordinances to regulate retention and detention ponds, including establishing a permitting process for the construction of new ponds and safety standards for ponds;
- (2) Require the counties to conduct a survey of existing retention and detention ponds statewide and submit a report to the Legislature; and
- (3) Appropriate funds as a grant-in-aid to the counties.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Waikiki Neighborhood Board; Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition; Hawaii Water Safety Coalition; Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement; Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that retention and detention ponds, while essential for managing stormwater runoff, can become dangerous due to sudden water level fluctuations and deep standing water. Without proper maintenance or safety regulations, these ponds pose a significant hazard, especially to young children who may unknowingly enter unsafe areas. This measure implements stricter oversight on the design and permitting of these ponds, including the adoption of safety standards, to reduce drowning risks and better protect Hawaii's children and communities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the grant-in-aid to the counties are additionally for the regulation of retention ponds and detention ponds located within their jurisdiction; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1221, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1221, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1461 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1657

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Agribusiness Development Corporation to acquire by condemnation any real property or interest in real property, under certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Agribusiness Development Corporation; and Hawai'i Farm Bureau.

Your Committee finds that increasing competition for land and water access has made it more challenging for farmers to sustain and expand agricultural operations, putting the future of local food production at risk. This measure enhances the Agribusiness Development Corporation's authority to acquire, protect, and manage agricultural lands, ensuring they remain designated for farming and support diversified agriculture. By strengthening land preservation efforts and securing vital resources, this measure helps promote long-term agricultural sustainability and food security in Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1657, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1657, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1462 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 304

The purpose of this measure is to establish positions and appropriate funds for Adult Services Probation of the First Circuit Court.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary.

Your Committee finds that the additional positions established in this measure will help the Adult Client Services Branch of the First Circuit Court better align with the recommended national best practice standards for community supervision with respect to optimal caseload distribution.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 304, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 304, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1463 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1225

The purpose of this measure is to propose an amendment to article XVII, section 3 of the Hawaii State Constitution regarding the standard for ratification of a constitutional amendment proposed by the Legislature, to require that a majority of all the votes tallied upon the question be a "yes" vote, and not include blank, spoiled, and over votes in determining whether a majority was reached.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission; Pride at Work - Hawai'i; Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Common Cause Hawaii; and nine individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaii Patriot Republicans and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that the amendments proposed by this measure will ensure that only definite "yes" or "no" votes are counted for constitutional amendment ballot questions, accurately reflecting voter intent and promoting a fair democratic process.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the ballot question;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1225, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1225, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 2 (Garcia, Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1464 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 935

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the retirement allowance for a member who first earned credited service as a judge after June 30, 2025, to 1.75 percent of their average final compensation for each year of credited service as a judge;
- (2) Include sheriffs and deputy sheriffs in the enhanced retirement benefits category;
- (3) Reduce the minimum number of years of credited service required for Tier 2 members to qualify for vested benefit status from ten years to five years; and
- (4) Increase employer contributions to offset the liability produced by the changes to the vesting benefits schedule.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Governor; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees; and Hawai'i State Teachers Association. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Judiciary; Kauai Bar Association; American Judicature Society; American Board of Trial Attorneys; West Hawaii Bar Association; Maui County Bar Association; State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers; Hawai'i State Trial Judges Association; Hawaii State Bar Association; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund; United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee finds that continued and widespread vacancies in state and county departments and agencies hamper their ability to provide various essential services to the public. Your Committee further finds that easing the requirements to be eligible for retirement benefits for certain government employees will improve retention and recruitment.

Your Committee further finds that this measure proposes to decrease retirement benefits for judges. Your Committee believes that this decrease in retirement benefits will deter qualified and experienced attorneys from considering judgeships.

Your Committee has accordingly amended this measure by deleting language that would have established the retirement allowance for a member who first earned credited service as a judge after June 30, 2025, to 1.75 percent of their average final compensation for each year of credited service as a judge.

Your Committee has further amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying language that would include sheriffs and deputy sheriffs to the enhanced retirement benefits category; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 935, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 935, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1465 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.B. No. 1582

The purpose of this measure is to recognize the coconut palm as an official, sustainable staple food source in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Hawai'i Farmers Union; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the coconut palm is a historically significant resource that has provided food, water, building materials, and household goods in Hawaii for centuries. Despite its many benefits, the coconut palm's edible products are underutilized and not fully integrated into local food systems, limiting its role in food security and agricultural production.

Your Committee further finds that the coconut palm is an iconic tree that reinforces the natural and cultural identity of Hawaii; it is a sacred and vital resource that sustains Hawaii's land, people, and culture. This measure formally acknowledges the coconut palm's value as a food source and culturally significant plant.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting statutory language that recognizes the cultural significance of the coconut palm and including additional related findings in the preamble;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1582, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1582, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1466 Transportation on S.B. No. 597

The purpose of this measure is to extend the written review decision deadline for the issuance of a notice of administrative revocation of a driver's license.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Law Enforcement; Department of Transportation; Hawai'i Police Department; Honolulu Police Department; Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Hawai'i; and Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that hundreds of people in the State are injured every year in traffic incidents involving a driver who was under the influence of either drugs or alcohol. Your Committee further finds Hawaii is one of the few states that imposes a statutory deadline for the issuance of a decision regarding whether or not to administratively revoke the driver's license of an individual suspected of operating a vehicle under the influence of an intoxicant. Extending this statutory deadline, as proposed by this measure, will allow the Administrative Driver's License Revocation Office more time to consider the toxicology results of breath or blood samples provided by a defendant and will ensure any administrative revocation of a driver license is based on complete toxicology evidence.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Reducing the mailing deadline proposed in this measure for written review decisions after an administrative revocation notice in alcohol- and drug-related cases to fourteen and twenty-eight days, respectively;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 597, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 597, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 1467 Transportation on S.B. No. 1285

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a new traffic infraction for those driving with a blood alcohol concentration between .05 grams and .079 grams;
- (2) Amend the administrative process at the Administrative Driver's License Revocation Office;
- (3) Establish a tiered administration revocation period of a driver's license for those arrested for operating a vehicle under the influence of an intoxicant; and
- (4) Require the Department of the Attorney General to report on cases for certain offenses related to impaired driving.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Hawai'i; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Mala Hanai Pua LLC; Hawaii Chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving; Hawai'i Alcohol Policy Alliance; Lokahi Treatment Centers; Maikai Cleaning Services LLC; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary; Department of the Attorney General; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Maui; and AAA Hawai'i.

Your Committee finds that timely and effective revocation of driver's license for individuals arrested for operating a vehicle under the influence of an intoxicant is critical to ensuring public safety. Delays or ambiguities in the revocation process can hinder enforcement efforts and allow impaired drivers to remain on the road, increasing the risk of accidents. Your Committee believes that strengthening the procedures for administrative license revocation will improve accountability and ensure that penalties are applied consistently and effectively.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have established a new traffic infraction for those driving with a blood alcohol concentration between .05 grams and .079 grams;
- (2) Clarifying that if a respondent has refused to be tested after being informed of their rights, then the applicable revocation periods shall be doubled;
- (3) Deleting language that would have required the Department of the Attorney General to report on cases for certain offenses related to impaired driving;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1285, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1285, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 1468 Labor on S.B. No. 327

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to administer an on-the-job training work experience program for eligible interns and appropriates funds for the establishment of this program;

- (2) Require the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to collaborate with the Department of Human Resources Development to place interns within executive branch departments, agencies, and programs; and
- (3) Clarify that the State is the responsible employer for providing workers' compensation coverage for students or recent graduates participating in the internship program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Department of Human Resources Development; University of Hawai'i System; Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for Education; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawai'i Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations; Kohala Coast Resort Association; Purple Maia Foundation; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Liberty Dialysis Hawai'i; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and Hawaiian Lifeguard Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committee finds that expanding state-funded internships to include private-sector positions will benefit the State by promoting economic growth, fostering public-private collaborations, and supporting job creation. Your Committee also finds that state-funded private-sector internships create opportunities for students to gain practical work experience and prepare them for the workforce. Future employers will also benefit from this measure by having a larger pool of skilled applicants who can fill critical roles in Hawaii's labor market. Your Committee believes that this measure is a strategic investment in the State's economic future by supporting students and local businesses, developing a skilled workforce, and ensuring that Hawaii remains competitive in the global economy.

Your Committee further finds that H.B. No. 430, H.D.2 (Regular Session of 2025), a substantially similar measure, was previously passed by the House.

Your Committee has amended this measure by deleting its contents and inserting the contents of H.B. 430 H.D.2, a measure that:

- (1) Authorizes and appropriates funds for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to administer an on—the—job training work experience program that partners with private entities to increase opportunities for eligible high school and college and university students to participate in summer internship programs and allow internships with private sector employers through a cost-sharing strategy;
- (2) Requires certain reporting by the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations;
- (3) Clarifies that the State is the responsible employer for purposes of workers' compensation coverage for students or recent graduates participating as interns in the work experience program, with certain limitations; and
- (4) Contains an effective date of July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 327, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 327, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1469 Labor on S.B. No. 1536

The purpose of this measure is to repeal the exemption for the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority from the Employees' Retirement System.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

Your Committee finds that the President and Chief Executive Officer position within the Hawaii Tourism Authority has been vacant for over a year. Removing the exemption for an individual occupying this position to contribute into and benefit from the Employees' Retirement System serves as an incentive to expand the applicant pool of qualified candidates to expeditiously fill the vacancy for the President and Chief Executive Officer position within the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring retirants who return to service as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority to re-enroll into the Employees' Retirement System; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1536, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1536, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kapela).

SCRep. 1470 Labor on S.B. No. 1651

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require board packets to be posted no later than 7:45 a.m. on the third business day before a public meeting; and
- (2) Require boards to provide notice to persons requesting notification of meetings at the time the board packet is made available for public inspection.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Disability and Communication Access Board; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Hawaii Chapter, Society of Professional Journalists; Public First Law Center; and two individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Office of Information Practices; and Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund.

Your Committee finds that the required notice period for posting board packets before public meetings is not being implemented as the Legislature intended and some agencies interpret the existing law to mean that a board packet can be posted at any time during the second business day before the public meeting. Your Committee believes board packets are critical to informed public participation in open meetings. Without board packets, members of the public would only have the details from an agenda to base their testimony on in advance of a meeting. This measure is necessary to promote meaningful public information and ensure the public is well-informed on the details of the meetings in advance.

However, your Committee understands the concerns raised by the Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission in regard to the timeliness in which certain boards can gather the information needed for their packets and concludes that requiring board packets to be posted two full business days before a meeting is preferable, as it provides adequate time for the boards to compile information for their packets and the public to have informed opinions ahead of public board meetings.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring board packets to be posted two full business days before a public meeting, rather than on 7:45 a.m on the third business day before a public meeting;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1651, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1651, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kapela).

SCRep. 1471 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 1048

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify the standards and safeguards in online crowdfunding as enacted by Act 205, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024 (Act 205); and
- (2) Extend the effective date of Act 205 to June 30, 2026.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and GoFundMe.

Your Committee finds that Act 205 was enacted in response to concerns over potentially fraudulent online fundraising platforms following the August 2023 Maui wildfires. Act 205 improved and expanded the Department of the Attorney General's enforcement of charitable fundraising activities, including regulation of charitable fundraising on online platforms. However, the provisions of Act 205 may also hamper the ability of charities to fundraise in the State. This measure seeks to strike a balance in order to target unscrupulous actors while providing charities with the necessary flexibility to raise funds for their charitable causes.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Consolidating all of the requirements applicable to platform charities under one section, which creates a separate registration, reporting, and fee requirements for platform charities to address the potential for duplication of these requirements;
- (2) Clarifying when certain definitions are applicable to charitable fundraising platforms and platform charities;
- (3) Consolidating all of the requirements applicable to charitable fundraising platforms under one section, which creates a separate registration, reporting, and fee requirements specific to charitable fundraising platforms to address the potential for duplication of these requirements;
- (4) Deleting language that allowed, for purposes of documenting contributions received over the Internet, the use of electronic mail addresses and internet protocol addresses;
- (5) Extending the effective date of Act 205 to July 1, 2026, and making such extension effective July 1, 2025;
- (6) Inserting a savings clause; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1048, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1048, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Tam, Pierick).

SCRep. 1472 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 1365

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to conduct criminal history record checks for applicants for physician licensure or license renewal through the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Medical Board; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawaii Medical Association; Hawai'i Pacific Health; The Queen's Health Systems; Hawaii Medical Service Association; and Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i.

Your Committee finds that the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact is a pathway for expedited medical licensure that will expand access to care, streamline the licensing process for physicians, and facilitate multi-state practice and telemedicine. Through the enactment of Act 112, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, Hawaii joined more than thirty states, the District of Columbia, and Guam in adopting the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. Your Committee further finds that Hawaii Medical Board must be granted the explicit statutory authority to request criminal history record checks to effectuate its role in the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. This measure authorizes the Hawaii Medical Board to perform criminal history record checks of applicants for physician licensure or license renewal through the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1365, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Ilagan, Marten).

SCRep. 1473 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 1500

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Public Utilities Commission to appoint a receiver to take temporary action, should the Commission find it necessary, to assure continued adequate electric services from a failing investor-owned electric utility; and

- (2) Require a receiver to recognize and maintain any existing collective bargaining agreement at the time of and throughout receivership and prohibit the receiver from inducing or causing a reduction in force, or terminating a covered employee, other than for cause consistent with the collective bargaining agreement.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Public Utilities Commission and Hawaiian Electric.

Your Committee finds that electric service is critical for daily life for every person in the State. The permanent loss of electricity, such as in the event of a complete company collapse, could endanger everything from public safety infrastructure to personal health equipment.

Your Committee further finds that utility receivership is a critical tool for protecting utility customers in only the most extreme circumstances, such as a complete company collapse. Under a receivership, an appointed person is authorized to take temporary action necessary to assure adequate utility services are continued. However, under existing law, the Public Utilities Commission is only authorized to appoint a receiver for a water or sewer utility, not an electric utility. This measure authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to appoint a receiver for electric utilities in the most extreme circumstances.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1500, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Ilagan, Marten).

SCRep. 1474 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 1281

The purpose of this measure is to extend the sunset date of Act 107, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, which allows for the reimbursement of services provided through telehealth via an interactive telecommunications system.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Human Services; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; University of Hawai'i System; Disability and Communication Access Board; State Health Planning and Development Agency; State Council on Mental Health; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawaii Medical Association; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; AlohaCare; Alzheimer's Association-Hawaii; AARP Hawai'i; Hawai'i Mental Health Hui; Hawaii Medical Service Association; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Hawaii Association of Health Plans.

Your Committee finds that the use and expansion of telehealth services and technology in the State have been recognized as a way to increase access and reduce delays to health care, particularly in rural areas of the State. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, telehealth became essential as the health care system and patients adjusted to the new realities, and as a result, the United States Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services authorized, among other changes, reimbursement for audio-only telehealth services.

Your Committee further finds that the State, through the enactment of Act 107, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, aligned state laws regarding reimbursements for telehealth services with the guidance provided by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. However, the existing uncertainties surrounding federal health care policies necessitates that any further amendments to the laws regarding reimbursements for telehealth services should be paused until policies are settled. This measure extends the sunset date of Act 107 to give the State the opportunity to adjust to any new federal policies that may be implemented or clarified.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1281, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Ilagan, Marten).

SCRep. 1475 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 191

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish and appropriate funds for the Hawaii Home Energy Assistance Program to assist eligible households in paying for their energy bills; and
- (2) Require the Public Utilities Commission Public Benefits Fee Administrator to provide certain information and assistance to recipients of the Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of Human Services; Public Utilities Commission; City and County of Honolulu Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency; Hawaiian Electric; Hawai'i Workers Center; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Coalition Earth; Hawai'i Climate Change and Health Working Group; Hawai'i Energy; Ohana Unity Party; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii households face significant energy burden. In 2024, over twenty percent of households in the State reported foregoing critical expenses such as food or medicine to pay their energy bill in full. The State ranked fifth in the nation for highest average household electricity burden. Furthermore, households living below the federal poverty level spent approximately twenty percent of their income on electricity costs, over nine times higher than the state average. Relatedly, disconnections rates have more than doubled from approximately five thousand nine hundred in 2018 to roughly twelve thousand eight hundred in 2023.

Your Committee further finds that the existing federal program for Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) remains woefully inadequate for the State's needs. Despite having the nation's highest household electricity costs, the State receives the lowest LIHEAP funding nationwide, as the funding formula heavily favors states with high heating needs. Only about six percent of federally income-eligible households have received LIHEAP heating assistance over the past four years. This measure addresses this gap in assistance by establishing a state program to assist eligible households in paying for their energy bills.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$5,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 191, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, 2 (Ilagan, Marten).

SCRep. 1476 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 1220

The purpose of this measure is to require:

- (1) Gas utility companies to submit proposed renewable gas tariffs to the Public Utilities Commission by August 31, 2025; and
- (2) The Public Utilities Commission to establish an initial or revised renewable gas tariff or tariffs no later than nine months after the filing of a completed application for a proposed renewable gas tariff if the Public Utilities Commission finds that the tariff meets certain conditions and standards.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Makakilo/Kapolei/Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board No. 34; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Gas; Simonpietri Enterprises LLC; Hawai'i Restaurant Association; Coalition for Renewable Natural Gas; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; and Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Public Utilities Commission.

Your Committee finds that environmentally conscious customers are seeking the option to purchase renewable gas through a renewable gas tariff. However, the existing regulations require a general rate case to create a renewable gas tariff, a process costing \$2,000,000 to \$3,000,000 and taking an average of two years. This measure accelerates the process for timely approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1220, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 2 (Iwamoto, Pierick). Excused, 2 (Ilgan, Marten).

SCRep. 1477 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 822

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Residential Landlord-Tenant Code Working Group to:

- (1) Conduct a comprehensive review of the Residential Landlord-Tenant Code to determine, among other things, whether amendments and updates are necessary; and
- (2) Submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature before the Regular Session of 2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; County of Hawai'i Office of Housing and Community Development; Hawaii Council of Community Associations; and Hawai'i Association of REALTORS.

Your Committee finds that the Residential Landlord-Tenant Code, codified as chapter 521, Hawaii Revised Statutes, provides a framework for the regulation of landlord-tenant relationships. Enacted in 1972, the Code has not undergone a thorough review since its inception, despite piecemeal updates over the years. The rental housing landscape in Hawaii has evolved significantly since that time and it is increasingly evident that the Code is in need of a comprehensive review to better address and reflect the needs of landlords and tenants in the present-day rental housing market. This measure therefore establishes a Working Group that explore solutions and propose necessary amendments to the Code.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting a purpose section;
- (2) Clarifying that the Residential-Landlord Tenant Code Working Group (Working Group) is a three-year working group and placing the Working Group within the Department of the Attorney General, rather than the Judiciary;
- (3) Clarifying and expanding the responsibilities of the Working Group;
- (4) Amending the membership of the Working Group;
- (5) Deleting reimbursement language relating to the members of the Working Group;
- (6) Requiring the Working Group to submit an initial report to the Legislature prior to the Regular Session of 2026 and a final report no later than July 1, 2028;
- (7) Requiring the initial meeting of the Working Group to convene no later than July 1, 2025;
- (8) Changing the dissolution date of the Working Group to July 1, 2028;
- (9) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (10) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 822, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 822, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Tam, Pierick).

SCRep. 1478 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 1100

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Rename the Department of Agriculture as the "Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity" and the Board of Agriculture as the "Board of Agriculture and Biosecurity";
- (2) Establish a Deputy Chairperson for Biosecurity;
- (3) Require the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture and Biosecurity to establish a Biosecurity Emergency Response Program that, among other things, can utilize biosecurity emergency response teams and volunteer emergency biosecurity disaster response personnel if a biosecurity emergency occurs;
- (4) Authorize the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity to establish transitional facilities where imported articles first received may be stored while being inspected;
- (5) Require the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to license and train biosecurity inspectors;
- (6) Require inspection, labeling, and any necessary disinfection or quarantine of various items transported interisland;

- (7) Increase penalties for illegally importing or transporting plants, animals, and microorganisms;
- (8) Require the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity to establish government-industry agreements with businesses to prevent, detect, and respond to unwanted organisms in Hawaii and an invasive species dashboard to provide public, real-time data on treatment areas;
- (9) Authorize the submission of pest management plans that, if implemented, could address, contain, or eradicate pests;
- (10) Authorize the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity to adopt rules to establish and enforce the Plant Care Component Program; and
- (11) Appropriate funds for biosecurity efforts and programs, including the establishment of certain positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Sugarland Farms, Inc.; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Forest Industry Association; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Harbors Users Group and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Pest Control Board; Hawai'i Invasive Species Council; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Matson Navigation Company, Inc.; The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i and Palmyra; Retail Merchants of Hawaii; Coordinating Group on Alien Species; Hawai'i Ant Lab; Kaua'i Invasive Species Committee; O'ahu Invasive Species Committee; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that invasive species pose a tremendous threat to the State's environment, agriculture, and economy. Each year, new pests threaten local food production, native ecosystems, and public health. A strong biosecurity program is therefore essential to prevent new invasive species from entering the State and manage those already here.

Your Committee further finds that Acts 197 and 231, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, bolstered agriculture biosecurity in the State under the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture. Your Committee further finds that given the Department of Agriculture's growing role in protecting the State from invasive species, it is appropriate for the name of the Department to change to reflect its expanding priorities.

Your Committee also finds that H.B. 427, H.D. 2 (Regular Session of 2025), a substantially similar measure, was previously passed by the House.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting its contents and inserting the contents of H.B. 427, H.D. 2, a measure that:
 - (A) Renames the Department of Agriculture as the "Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity" (Department) and the Board of Agriculture as the "Board of Agriculture and Biosecurity" (Board);
 - (B) Establishes and appropriates funds for a Deputy Director of Biosecurity;
 - (C) Changes references to the plant and animal declaration form to the "biosecurity form";
 - (D) Authorizes and specifies conditions under which the Department may declare a biosecurity emergency, during which the Department and Governor may take certain actions to prevent the establishment or spread of pests and prohibited or restricted organisms;
 - (E) Broadens the objectives and general actions of the Biosecurity Program;
 - (F) Appropriates funds for positions for the Department; and
 - (G) Takes effect on July 1, 3000;
- (2) Amending the composition of the Board to add two more at-large members and specifying that two members of the Board must have experience in biosecurity;
- (3) Inserting language that conforms all Acts passed during the Regular Session of 2025 to include the amendments changing the names of the Department and Board and the composition of the Board;
- (4) Inserting language that ensures that deeds, leases, contracts, loans, agreements, permits, or other documents remain in full force and effect with respect to the name changes effectuated by this measure;
- (5) Inserting language that ensures the continuity of rules, policies, procedures, guidelines, and other material remain in full force and effect with respect to the name changes effectuated by this measure;
- (6) Authorizing the Chairperson of the Board to designate any area for quarantine if the area is known or reasonably suspected to be infested with a newly detected invasive species or pest, a new population of an invasive species or pest, an invasive species or pest that is being actively controlled in the State, or a prohibited or restricted organism, to prevent the movement of materials to or from the location;
- (7) Requiring the Department to establish, no later than December 1, 2025, an invasive species dashboard that provides real-time data and information for treatment areas and requiring the Department to update the dashboard regularly;
- (8) Authorizing the submission of pest management plans that, if implemented, could address, contain, or eradicate pests; and
- (9) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1100, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1100, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, 2 (Ilagan, Marten).

SCRep. 1479 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 332

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit sellers of foreclosed homes in a nonjudicial foreclosure from bundling properties at a public sale and require each foreclosed home to be bid on separately; and
- (2) Specify that the sale of a foreclosed property is not final until the earliest of either fifteen days after the public sale, if an eligible bidder submits a subsequent bid or written notice of intent to submit a subsequent bid, or forty-five days after the public sale, if an eligible bidder submits a subsequent bid.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Lāhainā Strong.

Your Committee finds that the devastating Maui wildfires on August 8, 2023, was one of the worst natural disasters in the State's history. Your Committee further finds that as the foreclosure moratorium comes to an end, there are concerns Maui residents will face a wave of foreclosures that threatens their housing stability. To address these concerns, this measure prohibits the mass purchasing of foreclosed properties and allows certain entities to match or beat a public sale bid.

Your Committee notes that the language in this measure currently references the alternate power of sale foreclosure process, which is the nonjudicial foreclosure process available to condominium associations in part VI of chapter 667, Hawaii Revised Statutes (chapter 667). Part VI is a process for condominium associations that can be exercised when a unit owner has failed to pay an assessment; it does not apply to mortgaged properties and mortgagees that are subject to the power of sale foreclosure process in part II of chapter 667. Amendments are therefore necessary to reflect this measure's intent to focus only on mortgaged properties.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing references to the alternate power of sale foreclosure process and clarifying that this measure applies only to power of sale foreclosures in part II of chapter 667; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 332, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 332, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Ilagan, Marten).

SCRep. 1480 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 1035

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit businesses from offering, displaying, or advertising live-event tickets or short-term lodging without clearly and conspicuously disclosing the maximum total price of all fees or charges, with some exceptions; and
- (2) Specify that a misrepresentation of any fee or charge in any offer, display, or advertisement for live-event tickets or short-term lodging is an unfair or deceptive act or practice.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; PonoRez; Rick Bartalini Presents, LLC; American Hotel & Lodging Association; and Hawai'i Hotel Alliance. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the American Express Company.

Your Committee finds that price is material to a consumer's decision about whether to purchase a good or service. Consumers look for prices to comparison shop and weigh what a good or service might be worth. However, some businesses force consumers to go to multiple sites and click through multiple web pages before learning the true total price of a good or service. Consumer harm is particularly pronounced in the live-event ticketing and short-term lodging industries because the offered goods or services are often identical or nearly identical, with the most salient feature being the total price, which is shrouded from consumers. This measure is designed to address the harmful practices of bait-and-switch pricing and misleading fees and charges by mandating price transparency in these industries.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Explicitly stating that offering, displaying, or advertising any price of a covered good or service without clearly and conspicuously disclosing the total price, or misrepresenting any fee or charge, is an unfair and deceptive practice;
- (2) Requiring that when the final amount of payment is displayed in an offer, display, or advertisement, it shall be displayed more prominently than, or as prominently as, the total price;
- (3) Clarifying the clearly and conspicuously disclosure requirements;
- (4) Including a definition of "ancillary good or service" and amending the definition of "total price";
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1035, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1035, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Tam, Pierick).

SCRep. 1481 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 1142

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Specify procedures regarding the disbursement of insurance proceeds for residential real estate that has been damaged or destroyed;
- (2) Require mortgage servicers to make certain disclosures to borrowers upon commencing the servicing of mortgages; and
- (3) Require mortgage servicers to retain all communications with borrowers for at least four years.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Lāhainā Strong; Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement; United Policyholders; Mortgage Bankers Association of Hawaii; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committee finds that, in the event of a natural disaster that damages a home, the insurance proceeds will generally be made to the mortgage lender (or servicer) and the borrower. This is due to the contractual provision within a mortgage where lenders or servicers require that they are named in the homeowner's policy and that they are a party to any insurance proceeds related to the structure. Since the lender or servicer has a financial interest in the property, this arrangement ensures that necessary repairs are made.

Your Committee further finds that, depending on the circumstances, lenders and servicers may also put the money in an escrow account and pay for the repairs as work is completed. However, lenders and servicers are not required to pay interest on these accounts by law. This is the situation many residents find themselves in after the 2023 Maui wildfires. While local banks have been offering interest on the insurance proceeds pending the rebuilding process, consumers with out-of-state mortgage servicers have not been offered the same because existing law does not require insurance proceeds to be held in interest-bearing accounts. This measure will increase consumer protection in cases of damage or destruction by requiring all licensed mortgage servicers to contact the consumer and putting the insurance proceeds in interest-bearing accounts.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the procedures for when a borrower is more than thirty-one days delinquent in making payments on their mortgage apply when a borrower is thirty-one or more days delinquent;
- (2) Changing the required rate for an interest-bearing account from the national rate for money market accounts to the greater of either:
 - (A) A rate of two percent simple interest per annum; or
 - (B) For a depository mortgage servicer, the rate of the money market account for the depository mortgage servicer or, for a non-depository mortgage servicer, the rate of the money market account at the deposit institution with which the non-depository mortgage servicer conducts its banking business;
- (3) Deleting language that:
 - (A) Required mortgage servicers to make certain disclosures upon commencing the servicing of mortgages; and
 - (B) Required mortgage servicers to retain all communications for at least four years;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1142, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1142, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Ichiyama, Lowen).

SCRep. 1482 Water & Land on S.B. No. 1393

The purpose of this measure is to require the School Facilities Authority to consult with the Department of Education or other impacted department or agency before any transfer or lease of land or property owned or occupied by the Department of Education or other impacted department or agency to the School Facilities Authority.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the School Facilities Authority.

Your Committee finds that the School Facilities Authority (Authority) is charged with the responsibility for all public schools' development, planning, and construction related to capital improvement projects that are assigned by the State. Your Committee further finds that requiring the Authority to consult with the Department of Education or other impacted departments or agencies prior to the transfer of lands to the Authority will ensure the State provides an optimal learning and teaching environment for all students and teachers while maintaining a streamlined land transfer process.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Repealing language requiring the Department of Education to transfer the title of lands held by the Department of Education to the Authority upon request of the Authority; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1393, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1393, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Ichiyama, Woodson).

SCRep. 1483 Water & Land on S.B. No. 746

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a two-year Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Eradication Pilot Program under the Department of Land and Natural Resources to provide community-based incentives to eradicate the coconut rhinoceros beetle in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Agriculture; Hawaii Invasive Species Council; Windward Coalition; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the coconut rhinoceros beetle poses a severe threat to Hawaii's native and agricultural landscapes. Since its initial detection in 2013, the beetle has rapidly expanded across Oahu and has been identified on Kauai, Maui, and Hawaii Island, causing widespread damage to tree canopies, diminishing natural habitats, and undermining reforestation and conservation efforts. To mitigate further spread and destruction, this measure establishes a two-year Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Eradication Pilot Program within the Department of Land and Natural Resources, prioritizing coordinated eradication strategies and public participation to safeguard Hawaii's natural resources, native ecosystems, and agricultural sustainability.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 746, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1484 Water & Land on S.B. No. 26

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Affordable Housing Land Inventory Task Force to conduct a study, in collaboration with public landowners and the counties, to assess the viability of affordable housing development in transit-oriented development zones, near transit hubs, bus stations, or urban growth areas on state or county lands; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for staff positions and contractual services incurred by the Affordable Housing Land Inventory Task Force.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Hawai'i Community Development Authority; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's severe shortage of affordable housing requires a strategic approach to land use, particularly in areas with existing infrastructure and transit accessibility. State and county-owned lands present an opportunity for responsible development, but a thorough assessment is needed to determine feasibility and potential challenges. This measure establishes the Affordable Housing Land Inventory Task Force to evaluate public lands near transit hubs and urban growth areas, identifying constraints and opportunities for housing development. By facilitating data-driven planning and coordination among agencies, this initiative aims to expand affordable housing while promoting sustainable land management and efficient resource use.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the representative from each county required to be on the Affordable Housing Land Inventory Task Force shall be the mayor of each county, or the mayor's designee;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion;
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 26, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 26, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1485 Water & Land on S.B. No. 1541

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Waiahole Water System for bond debt service and tunnel repair.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Agribusiness Development Corporation; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Hawaii Agriculture Research Center; Bayer U.S. LLC; Ulupono Initiative; Kunia Village Title Holding Corporation; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Larry Jefts Farms, LLC; Hawaii Crop Improvement Association; and Mililani Agricultural Park, LLC.

Your Committee finds that the Waiahole Water System is essential for transporting water from the Koolau Mountains to central and leeward Oahu, supporting thousands of acres of agricultural land. However, aging infrastructure and high water rates place a significant financial burden on farmers, increasing production costs and food prices. This measure appropriates funds to the Agribusiness Development Corporation to retire bond debt and address infrastructure repairs, ensuring long-term water access and affordability for Hawaii's agricultural sector.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1541, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 1 (Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1486 Water & Land on S.B. No. 1263

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Create a process for expediting the review of majority-residential mixed-use transit-oriented development or residential transit-oriented development on certain parcels within county-designated transit-oriented development zones that have a low risk of affecting historically significant resources;
- (2) Authorize lead agencies, including county governments, to make determinations on the potential effects of a project;
- (3) Create a ninety-day limit, or thirty-calendar-day limit if no historic properties are affected, for the Department of Land and Natural Resources to concur or not concur with project effect determinations;
- (4) Exempt projects with written concurrence from further review unless there is a change to the project or additional historic properties, aviation artifacts, or burial sites are identified within the project area; and
- (5) Establish notice and reporting requirements if there is a change to the project or additional historic properties, aviation artifacts, or burial sites are identified within the project area after the initial written concurrence.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Hawai'i Community Development Authority; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Hawaii YIMBY; Hawai'i Community Development Authority; Holomua Collaborative; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii must balance the urgent need for housing development with the protection of historic and cultural resources. Transit-oriented development offers a practical solution to increasing housing supply near transportation hubs, but lengthy historic preservation reviews can cause unnecessary delays, even in areas with little to no risk of impacting significant cultural sites. This measure establishes a streamlined review process for residential transit-oriented development in previously assessed areas, ensuring timely project approvals while upholding protections for historic properties and burial sites.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the definition of "majority-residential mixed-use transit-oriented development";
- (2) Requiring an applicant to ensure that its application submittal is complete and accurate and establishing procedures such as restarting the review period, if certain requirements are not met or more information or clarification is needed;
- (3) Defining "complete submittal";

- (4) Clarifying the requirements for a parcel and right-of-way submitted by the counties or Hawaii Community Development Authority that were rated in the lower two effect levels to be considered in compliance with certain review requirements; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1263, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1263, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1487 Water & Land on S.B. No. 438

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit landfill units on land in an agricultural district with class A or B soils;
- (2) Prohibit the construction, modification, or expansion of any waste or disposal facility for solid waste or hazardous waste on land that is near or above a significant aquifer;
- (3) Clarify that beginning July 1, 2025, the existing buffer zone between waste or disposal facilities and residential, school, or hospital property lines applies to municipal solid waste landfill units or components, construction and demolition landfill units, and their components; and
- (4) Prohibit the construction, modification, or expansion of a landfill unit inland of the underground injection control line in a county with a population greater than five hundred thousand, with certain exemptions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Honolulu Board of Water Supply; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Environmental Caucus of Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Energy Justice Network; Kūpuna for the Mo'opuna; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Health; Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; and Department of Environmental Management of the County of Hawai'i. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Environmental Services at the City and County of Honolulu; Department of Public Works of the County of Kaua'i; Reworld; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that safeguarding Oahu's freshwater aquifers is essential to ensuring a reliable and clean drinking water supply for residents. Given the risks posed by landfill sites to critical water resources, new waste disposal facilities must not be located near or above significant aquifers. Your Committee also finds that preserving prime agricultural lands is vital to maintaining local food production and preventing environmental harm. This measure strengthens land use protections by prohibiting the construction, expansion, or modification of landfill units on highly productive agricultural lands and in areas that could endanger the State's water supply, prioritizing sustainable resource management and long-term environmental resilience.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Narrowing the prohibition on landfill units on land in agricultural districts to only those lands having class A soils;
- (2) Specifying that the prohibition on the construction, modification, or expansion of a landfill unit applies within no pass zones, rather than inland of the underground injection control line;
- (3) Prohibiting the use of fly ash, bottom ash, or a combination of fly ash and bottom ash from a municipal waste combustor for certain purposes and imposing requirements on the disposal of these materials; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 438, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 438, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1488 Water & Land on S.B. No. 66

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require permits to be issued by applicable permitting agencies within sixty days of a complete application being filed for certain single-family and multi-family housing projects if certain conditions are satisfied; and
- (2) Automatically deem a completed permit approved if the applicable permitting agency has not approved the permit within sixty days, except under certain circumstances.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Maui Chamber of Commerce; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Hawaii YIMBY; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; RMA Sales; Pacific Resource Partnership; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu; Department of Public Works of the County of Hawai'i; and Lāhainā Strong. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; and Hawaii Iron Workers Stabilization Fund.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's ongoing housing shortage requires immediate action, as a key barrier to meeting the State's housing demand is the prolonged building permit approval process, which significantly delays development, increases costs, and discourages investment in new housing projects. Unlike other jurisdictions where compliance is verified during inspections, Hawaii's extensive pre-construction review process adds unnecessary bottlenecks, hindering efforts to expand residential infrastructure. To address this issue, this measure mandates the issuance of building permits within sixty days for certain single-family and multi-family projects that meet established criteria, ensuring a more efficient permitting process while maintaining compliance with zoning and infrastructure standards.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that a complete application contains a full and complete plan and inserting a definition for "full and complete plans";
- (2) Allowing the sixty-day review period to be paused if the county deems the application is not complete or requires additional information from the applicant, or if the applicant is revising the applicant's submitted plans based on recommendations from the applicable planning agency;

- (3) Requiring that a permit be deemed approved if the applicant submits full and complete plans and agrees to all recommendations from the applicable planning agency;
- (4) Clarifying when an application shall not be deemed approved if no approval has been granted within sixty days after the application was filed;
- (5) Inserting a sunset date of June 30, 2030;
- (6) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 66, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 66, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto, Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1489 Tourism/Water & Land on S.B. No. 439

The purpose of this measure is to require the Board of Land and Natural Resources to adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to impose user fees that solely apply to nonresidents visiting state parks and trails.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from Care for 'Āina Now Coalition; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Coalition Earth; and three individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Activities and Attractions Association of Hawaii. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; and Maui Chamber of Commerce.

Your Committees find that Hawaii's natural environment is central to the State's identity and appeal, offering stunning landscapes and unique ecosystems enjoyed by millions of visitors. Your Committees further find that the fees expected to be generated by this measure would assist the Department of Land and Natural Resources in maintaining state parks and trails without imposing an undue burden on state residents.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Authorizing the Board of Land and Natural Resources to adopt seasonal pricing regarding user fees for state parks and trails;
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Tourism and Water & Land that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 439, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 439, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Tourism: Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Matsumoto).

Water & Land: Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 1490 Tourism/Water & Land on S.B. No. 1396

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend the Transient Accommodations Tax rate beginning on January 1, 2027;
- (2) Beginning on January 1, 2027, require a \$20 Transient Accommodation Tax to be levied per night for each furnishing of a transient accommodation in exchange for points, miles, or other amounts provided through a membership, loyalty, or rewards program; and
- (3) Appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the protection, management, and restoration of the State's natural resources.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Governor; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of the Attorney General; Hawai'i State Energy Office; Hawai'i Community Development Authority; Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency; Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority; Hawai'i Climate Advisory Team; Hawai'i Ocean Legislative Task Force; The Nature Conservancy - Hawai'i and Palmyra; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Mālama Learning Center; Coalition Earth; Hawai'i Land Trust; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement; Care for 'Āina Now Coalition; Kupu; Resources Legacy Fund; and numerous individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Mid and Short Term Rental Alliance; Maui Hotel & Lodging Association; Sheraton Maui Resort & Spa; Westin Maui Resort & Spa; Honu Hawaii Home LLC; Kohala Coast Resort Association; O'ahu Short-Term Rental Alliance; South Maui Fish Company; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and numerous individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Office of the Governor - Recovery and Resiliency Unit; Department of Taxation; Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Hawai'i Tourism Authority; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Marriott International; Hawai'i Hotel Alliance; American Hotel & Lodging Association; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; Expedia Group; and two individuals.

Your Committees find that a strong commitment to environmental stewardship enhances Hawaii's reputation as a world-class destination for sustainable tourism. Your Committees further find that the approach adopted by this measure helps Hawaii maintain its competitive edge in the global tourism market while ensuring the long-term viability of its natural resources.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Assessing the Transient Accommodations Tax on cruise ship cabins based on the total time the cruise ship is docked at any port in the State but leaving the rate unspecified;
- (2) Deleting the requirement for a \$20 Transient Accommodation Tax to be levied per night for each furnishing of transient accommodations in exchange for points, miles, or other amounts provided through a membership, loyalty, or rewards program;
- (3) Adding environmental stewardship, climate and hazard mitigation, and sustainable tourism as additional uses for the appropriation to the Department of Land and Natural Resources; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Tourism and Water & Land that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1396, S.D. 3, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it be referred to your Committee on Finance, in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1396, S.D. 3, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Tourism: Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Matsumoto).

Water & Land: Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 1491 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.B. No. 1298

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow manufacturers to coordinate activities directly related to the recycling of covered electronic devices;
- (2) Expand the scope of covered electronic devices to include electronic device peripherals and certain legacy devices; and
- (3) Allow manufacturers to provide collection service locations and collection events in lieu of satisfying their existing statutory recycling obligations.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Consumer Technology Association; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; and Retail Merchants Hawaii. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; Department of Environmental Management of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Mr. K's Recycle and Redemption Center; Waste Reduction Task Force of the Hawaii Environmental Change Agents; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; IT Reuse Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that ensuring sustainable recycling practices for electronic devices is essential to reducing waste and promoting the environmental health of the State. Your Committee seeks a balance between the need for manufacturers to meet their recycling obligations against the need to determine whether the weight basis of those recycling obligations should continue to be used or other options may be preferable.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing language authorizing manufacturer coordination that duplicates existing authority under section 339D-23(d), Hawaii Revised Statutes, and amending that subsection to repeal the deadline for plan implementation and operation in order for that collaboration authority to apply;
- (2) Replacing all references to "covered electronic device" with "electronic device";
- (3) Clarifying that persons with a license to manufacture electronic devices for delivery exclusively to or at the order of the licensor are not excluded from the definition of "manufacturer";
- (4) Requiring manufacturers' recycling plans to describe communication efforts with the State and counties to facilitate consumer education efforts;
- (5) Updating and extending manufacturer recycling goals to 2027;
- (6) Removing authorization for manufacturers to provide collection service locations and collection events, including collectively through a coordinating body, in lieu of satisfying their statutory recycling obligations;
- (7) Requiring additional information to be included in manufacturers' reports containing information for calendar years 2025, 2026, and 2027;
- (8) Requiring collectors to report certain information regarding recyclers and refurbishers and allowing the Department of Health to require submission of bills of lading and recycler receiving reports;
- (9) Requiring the Department of Health to submit a report to the Legislature;
- (10) Deleting the preamble;
- (11) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (12) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1298, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1298, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1492 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.B. No. 1501

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow the State to enter into step-in agreements for payment obligations arising under certain power purchase agreements;
- (2) Establish the Power Purchasing Costs Trust Fund;
- (3) Establish that revenues from on-bill charges for power purchase agreements and accompanying reserves shall be held in trust by the State, and that independent power producers shall hold a beneficial interest in the revenue and reserve to the extent of the amounts owed under the covered power purchase agreements; and
- (4) Appoint, authorize, and empower an electric utility to serve as the billing, collection, payment, and managing agent of the Department of Budget and Finance in the service of performing step-in agreements.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Public Utilities Commission; Ulupono Initiative; TerraForm Power; AES Hawai'i; Hawaiian Electric; Clearway Energy Group LLC; Climate Hawai'i Initiative of the Hawai'i Executive Collaborative; Longroad Energy; Plus Power; Ameresco; Blue Planet Foundation; General Contractors Association of Hawaii; and Nexamp. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; and Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that it is imperative to enable the development of affordable clean energy resources in the State. Your Committee further finds that an investor-owned electric utility's sub-investment-grade status has led independent power producers to raise concerns about the reliability of payment by the utility, risking the cancellation of renewable energy projects. This measure helps ensure payments to independent power producers through step-in agreements.

Your Committee has amended this measure by deleting its contents and inserting the contents of H.B. No. 974, H.D. 2, a substantively similar measure, and further amending it by:

- (1) Clarifying that "power purchase costs" include termination payments payable by an electric utility in connection with the termination of a power purchase agreement;
- (2) Allowing the Department of Budget and Finance to conduct due diligence investigations prior to entering into a step-in agreement;
- (3) Limiting remedies available against the Department of Budget and Finance for failure to comply with a step-in agreement or breach of an agency agreement to an order directing specific performance of the step-in agreement or agency agreement, respectively;
- (4) Clarifying that the obligee of a covered power purchase agreement shall only have a claim or lien on monies attributable to covered power purchased agreements and that the obligee shall remain entitled to all payments for power purchase costs owed under the covered power purchase agreement;
- (5) Prohibiting the Department of Budget and Finance from imposing certain conditions on a step-in agreement that adversely affect the Department's obligation to make payments for power purchase costs;
- (6) Clarifying that monies in the account established under the Power Purchasing Costs Trust Fund related to reserve fees will remain with the Department of Budget and Finance;
- (7) Removing language specifying procedures for the failure of the electric utility to timely file a submission for monthly rate adjustments;
- (8) Clarifying that the electric utility is required to transfer all revenues from the power purchase charges one day, instead of two days, after the utility receives notice of a default of a covered power purchase agreement;
- (9) Requiring the Department of Budget and Finance to establish two separate accounts within the Power Purchase Costs Trust Fund;
- (10) Clarifying that the Department of Budget and Finance is not under obligation to make payment to any obligee in excess of the monies in the Power Purchase Costs Trust Fund;
- (11) Clarifying that the Public Utilities Commission is required to create reserve fees, which are a utility-wide nonbypassable surcharge, by August 1, 2025;
- (12) Prohibiting the electric utility from accessing the reserve account except if authorized;
- (13) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (14) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1501, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1501, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ward).

SCRep. 1493 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.B. No. 1588

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Nuclear Energy Task Force within the Hawaii State Energy Office.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Nuclear Energy Institute; Third Way; and seven individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Clean the Pacific; Recycle Hawaii; Energy Justice Network; 350Hawaii.org; Bitches Against Nukes; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Greenpeace Hawaii; Ka Lahui Hawai'i; Kauai Women's Caucus; Maui Peace Action; Our Revolution Hawaii; Surfrider Foundation, Kauai Chapter; Veterans for Peace Chapter 113 Hawaii; Green Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Malu 'Aina Center for Non-violent Education & Action; Life of the Land; Ka Ohana O Na Pua; Kupuna Council of Traditional Hawaiian Healers; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i State Energy Office.

Your Committee finds that nuclear energy is a reliable energy source capable of generating carbon-free electricity without emitting greenhouse gases. Your Committee finds that the State should evaluate the potential of utilizing nuclear power technologies in Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives standing committees with primary jurisdiction over environmental matters are required to serve on the Task Force;
- (2) Adding a representative from an environmental organization to be invited to the Task Force;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes the testimony from the Hawaii State Energy Office regarding the challenges and current lack of cost, production, safety, and nuclear waste management information on nuclear energy technology, including small modular reactors, to determine feasibility of use in the State and recognizes that further consideration of the objectives of the Nuclear Energy Task Force is needed.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1588, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1588, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 3. Noes, 1 (Perruso). Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1494 Economic Development & Technology on S.B. No. 558

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Food and Product Innovation Network within the Agribusiness Development Corporation; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for food and product development or innovation facilities in the County of Maui and on the islands of Oahu and Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism; Department of Agriculture; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Ulupono Initiative; Local Food Coalition; Hawai'i Forest Industry Association; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that expanding Hawaii's food and value-added product industries would help increase economic growth and diversification. Your Committee further finds that many emerging agribusinesses and entrepreneurs struggle with costs associated with research and product development, stifling the growth of new businesses. This measure provides these businesses with support for research and development, manufacturing, and commercialization, enabling businesses to scale up new products.

Your Committee has amended this measure by clarifying that:

- (1) Partner members of the Food and Product Innovation Network shall include certain future facilities on the islands of Kauai, Hawaii, Maui, and Molokai, rather than the Department of Education center in Kekaha; and
- (2) The appropriation will be for the development of Food and Product Innovation Network facilities, without specific allocations for various facilities.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$350,000 for the development of Food and Product Innovation Network facilities.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 558, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 558, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1495 Economic Development & Technology on S.B. No. 1641

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the State of Hawaii Film Commission and transfer the rights, powers, functions, and duties of the Hawaii Film Office to the Commission;
- (2) Establish the State of Hawaii Film Commission Board within the State of Hawaii Film Commission;
- (3) Establish the Film Industry Development Special Fund;
- (4) Rename the Hawaii Film and Creative Industries Development Special Fund as the Hawaii Creative Industries Development Special Fund and exclude media and film from the definition of creative industries;
- (5) Allow the Creative Industries Development Special Fund to be used for the support and development of public facilities and other initiatives to grow the State's creative industries; and
- (6) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; Hawaii Teamsters Local 996; Pride at Work–Hawaii; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Honolulu Film Office; and IATSE Local 665.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's film industry presents a significant opportunity for economic growth, job creation, and global cultural recognition. Your Committee believes that establishing a film commission would help streamline industry activity, attract investment, and improve local production capacity.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the name of the State of Hawaii Film Commission and State of Hawaii Film Commission Board to the Hawaii Film Authority and Hawaii Film Authority Board, respectively;
- (2) Amending the membership of the Hawaii Film Authority Board;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1641, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1641, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1496 Economic Development & Technology/Tourism on S.B. No. 891

The purpose of this measure is to establish a Tourism and Gaming Working Group within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Iron Workers Stabilization Fund; Aloha Hālawā District Partners; Boyd Gaming; Stanford Carr Development; and five individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from four individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Stadium Authority; Hawai'i Tourism Authority; Ali'i Pauahi Hawaiian Civic Club; and 'Aiea Community Association.

Your Committees find that legalizing gaming and gambling activities could spur economic activity and job creation while creating an additional source of revenue for the State. Your Committees further find that the New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District may offer a prime location for such activities. This measure ensures that the State examines the complex relationship between tourism and the potential introduction of legalized gaming and gambling.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Working Group to examine strategies to mitigate gambling addiction and other health harms associated with gambling;
- (2) Requiring the Working Group to examine strategies to mitigate the financial harms associated with gambling;
- (3) Allowing the Co-chairpersons of the Working Group to appoint designees;
- (4) Changing the membership of the Working Group;

- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Economic Development & Technology and Tourism that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 891, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 891, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Economic Development & Technology: Ayes, 6; Ayes with Reservations (Templo, Matsumoto). Noes, 1 (Hussey). Excused, none.

Tourism: Ayes, 6; Ayes with Reservations (Templo, Matsumoto). Noes, 1 (Hussey). Excused, none.

SCRep. 1497 Water & Land on S.B. No. 465

The purpose of this measure is to require and appropriate funds for the Department of Land and Natural Resources to conduct a study of the carrying capacity of Kikiaola Small Boat Harbor in the County of Kauai.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one member of the Kaua'i County Council and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Chamber of Sustainable Commerce; Explore Kauai Scuba; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that Kikiaola Small Boat Harbor is a critical access point for Kauai's coastal communities, serving boaters, fishers, and tour operators. However, increasing activity at the harbor raises concerns about environmental degradation, overcrowding, safety risks, and infrastructure strain. A comprehensive carrying capacity study will provide essential data on the harbor's ability to sustain human activity without harming natural and cultural resources. This measure directs the Department of Land and Natural Resources to conduct the study, assess current management practices, and propose long-term strategies to balance sustainable use with environmental and community needs, ensuring that Kikiaola Small Boat Harbor remains a safe and viable resource for future generations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the carrying capacity assessed by the study to include the area surrounding Kikiaola Small Boat Harbor and the capacity effects of any approved improvements to the Kikiaola Small Boat Harbor, including the construction of a second boat launch ramp; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 465, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 465, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1498 Consumer Protection & Commerce/Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 148

The purpose of this measure is to replace the existing Mixed Martial Arts Program with a new regulatory framework by incorporating combat sports under the existing State Boxing Commission of Hawaii, and renaming the Commission as the Combat Sports Commission of Hawaii.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Big Dog Fight Club; and seven individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committees find that mixed martial arts allow for the use of striking and grappling techniques; standing and on-the-ground combat; and blend boxing, wrestling, Brazilian jiu-jitsu, Muay Thai, kickboxing, karate, judo, and other combat styles. Your Committees further find that a regulatory commission with experience in combat sports may further promote the State's ability to attract major combat sports events. This measure seeks to allow for the growth of mixed martial arts in the State through a regulatory commission.

Your Committees note that the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs would need time to prepare for the implementation of the new regulatory framework and the adjusted purview of the Commission. To accomplish this goal, it is intended that the final effective date of this measure should be July 1, 2026.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the name of the Combat Sports Commission of Hawaii to the Boxing and Combat Sports Commission of Hawaii to accurately reflect that the Commission's purview encompasses the regulation of both boxing and combat sports;
- (2) Deleting language relating to small combat sports contests, thereby ensuring that this measure now requires:
 - (A) An ambulance with paramedics to be present at all combat sports contests; and
 - (B) Two physicians to be present at every combat sports contest;
- (3) Specifying that physicians, rather than licensed health care providers, must examine combat sports contestants one hour before the contestant enters the ring and make examinations of contestants who were knocked down or sustained a severe beating about the head;
- (4) Changing the effective date for all provisions except the appropriation to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Consumer Protection & Commerce and Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 148, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it be referred to your Committee on Finance, in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 148, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Consumer Protection & Commerce: Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Ilgan, Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Tam, Pierick).

Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs: Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1499 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 21

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Public Utilities Commission to establish, no later than January 1, 2026, an automatic adjustment mechanism, including a Water Carrier Inflationary Cost Index automatic adjustment mechanism; and
- (2) Authorize the Public Utilities Commission to waive or exempt a water carrier from the Hawaii Water Carrier Act.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Young Brothers, LLC; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Lānaʻi Oil Company, Inc.; Hono Heke Corporation, dba Expeditions Ferry; Hawaiʻi Harbors Users Group; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of Agriculture; and Public Utilities Commission.

Your Committee finds that water carriers engage in the transportation of persons or property by water. These carriers play a crucial role in sustaining each island's economy and community by, among other things, moving essential goods between islands.

Your Committee further finds that water carriers are not immune from existing inflationary pressures. While cargo volumes for these carriers have stagnated, the costs of operation have increased, leading to an ongoing struggle to establish and maintain financial sustainability. This is further exacerbated by the regulatory lag to address increasing costs. This measure authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to develop a mechanism that will flexibly address the increasing costs of these much-needed carriers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the date for when the Public Utilities Commission is authorized to establish automatic adjustment mechanisms from January 1, 2026, to July 1, 2026;
- (2) Clarifying that the automatic rate adjustment created by the water carrier inflationary cost index automatic adjustment mechanism is tied to the annual percent change in a Product Price Index, as determined by the Public Utilities Commission, instead of the Gross Domestic Product Price Index;
- (3) Requiring the Public Utilities Commission to consider applicable inflation indexes when determining the Product Price index;
- (4) Clarifying that any request to establish an automatic adjustment mechanism can be submitted as part of a rate case application and deleting language that would have specified that the filing does not constitute a rate increase application or request for a general rate increase; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 21, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 21, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Tam, Pierick).

SCRep. 1500 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 589

The purpose of this measure is to

- (1) Require the Public Utilities Commission to establish a goal of installing fifty thousand new installations of customer-sited distributed energy resources by December 31, 2030;
- (2) Require the Public Utilities Commission to use tariffs for grid services programs, microgrids, community-based renewable energy, and retail wheeling;
- (3) Require compensation for solar and energy storage exports to the electric grid and require the Public Utilities Commission to establish grid service compensation values;
- (4) Specify that persons who construct, maintain, or operate a new microgrid are not considered a public utility solely due to furnishing service through that new microgrid; and
- (5) Authorize retail wheeling of renewable energy and require the Public Utilities Commission to establish policies and procedures to implement retail wheeling and microgrid service tariffs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from LegaSea Energy; Blue Planet Foundation; Inter-Island Solar Supply; Alternate Energy Inc.; Sol-Ark; Hawaii Solar Energy Association; Holu Hou Energy; Energy Advisors; Sunrun Inc.; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260 and Hawaiian Electric. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Public Utilities Commission; and Ulupono Initiative.

Your Committee finds that retail wheeling is the transmission of electric power from an electricity generator to consumers over transmission lines of a third-party electric utility. Your Committee further finds that retail wheeling may be a mechanism to encourage further renewable energy generation that would aid the State in achieving the State's renewable energy goals. However, the implementation of retail wheeling requires an examination of many complex and interrelated issues to ensure reliability and cost-effectiveness, such as interconnection, availability of transmission and distribution capacity, appropriate rates and rate design, and back-up power requirements.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Restricting the authorization for retail wheeling under this measure to intragovernmental wheeling; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 589, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 589, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, 1 (Kong). Excused, 2 (Ilagan, Marten).

SCRep. 1501 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 1269

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the continued exploration and identification of geothermal resources and commercial viability for utility-scale geothermal production in counties with a population of less than three hundred thousand, with certain limitations.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Ulupono Initiative; Waika Consulting; Innovations Development Group; Coalition Earth; Hawaiian Electric; and eight individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hulu Mamo Hawaiian Civic Club; Energy Justice Network; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaiʻi; Green Party Hawaiʻi; Mala Hanai Pua LLC; Malu ʻAina Center for Non-

violent Education & Action; La'akea Permaculture Farm; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Sustainable Energy Hawai'i; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that geothermal energy is heat that was generated during the planet's formation, stored in rocks and fluids, and brought as steam to the Earth's surface using deep wells. The steam drives turbines to generate electricity. Your Committee further finds that geothermal has been identified as a near-term and mid-term decarbonization opportunity for Hawaii. Geothermal energy thus has the potential to play an extremely significant role in meeting the State's energy objectives of reliability, affordability, and diversification. Because geothermal exploration and identification require significant investment of upfront capital, underlying research to confirm the viability of geothermal is needed.

Your Committee further finds that the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation received an appropriation of \$3,000,000 for the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year, and, through its partnership with the University of Hawaii, has already begun work on an integrated geothermal development roadmap with the concrete goal of facilitating the development of a utility-scale geothermal power plant. This measure provides further necessary funding for the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation to continue its work.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the restriction on the usage of funds such that funds shall not be used for exploratory, test, or production wells within a fifteen-mile radius of an existing geothermal power plant that is currently providing electricity to the grid; and
- (2) Specifying that funds shall not be used on projects within an unspecified radius of residential areas.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$3,000,000.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1269, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1269, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 2 (Iwamoto, Pierick). Excused, 2 (Ilagan, Marten).

SCRep. 1502 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 1429

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Department of Health to impose penalties and take enforcement actions for violations of the medical cannabis laws;
- (2) Retroactively repeal the prohibition against primary caregivers cultivating medical cannabis for their qualifying patients;
- (3) Authorize primary caregivers to cultivate cannabis in an amount not to exceed an adequate supply for the qualifying patient;
- (4) Extend until July 1, 2027, the effective date of certain interim rules adopted by the Department of Health; and
- (5) Extend until June 30, 2029, the sunset date for the exemption from civil service of personnel hired by, or contracts entered into by, the Department of Health.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Oahu Cannabis Farm Alliance; Libertarian Party of Hawaii; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Akamai Cannabis Consulting and Cure Oahu.

Your Committee finds that medical cannabis primary caregivers are a vital resource for qualifying patients who require cannabis for medical use. Many qualifying patients are too ill to grow their own medical cannabis and having a primary caregiver who is capable of cultivating medical cannabis on behalf of the patient, as well as assisting the patient in purchasing medical cannabis from medical cannabis dispensaries can ensure that qualifying patients can continue to maintain access to medical cannabis. However, the authority for a primary caregiver to cultivate medical cannabis for a patient terminated on January 1, 2025. This measure, in part, repeals that prohibition to allow primary caregivers to cultivate medical cannabis for qualifying patients once again.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the retroactive effective date for the prohibition against primary caregivers cultivating medical cannabis for their qualifying patients to January 1, 2025;
- (2) Changing the effective date for the extension of certain interim rules and the extension of the sunset date for civil service exemptions to June 28, 2025; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1429, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1429, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 2 (Iwamoto, Pierick). Excused, 2 (Ilagan, Marten).

SCRep. 1503 Consumer Protection & Commerce/Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 897

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize electric cooperatives to recover, if approved by the Public Utilities Commission, wildfire mitigation, repair, and restoration costs through an automatic rate adjustment clause or other tariff recovery mechanism;
- (2) Establish an aggregate limit for liability for economic damages from catastrophic wildfires; and
- (3) Authorize a public utility to securitize costs to implement the public utility's wildfire risk mitigation plan and other investments in infrastructure improvements, modernization, and replacement needed to reduce wildfire risks and increase reliability and resilience to natural disasters and other weather-related events.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Life of the Land; Par Hawaii; Plus Power; Clearway Energy Group; Uluono Initiative; Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative; Mālama Learning Center; Sustainable Energy Hawai'i; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1260; Hawaiian Electric; Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; and numerous individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Regional Council of Carpenters and Hawaii

Association for Justice. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Office of the Governor; Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of the Attorney General; Public Utilities Commission; and Charter Communications.

Your Committees find that due to climate change, the risk to Hawaii from catastrophic wildfires and other natural disasters has increased. While various proposals have been made to address potential damages from a future catastrophic wildfire, including the establishment of a streamlined process to quickly offer settlement payments, your Committees believe that it would be more prudent to direct efforts toward mitigating wildfire risk.

Your Committees also find that while an electric utility must expend significant financial capital to make the necessary upgrades or maintenance to address wildfire risk, securitization could aid the electric utility in meeting its financial needs while spreading the costs over an extended period of time. Securitization allows for the issuance of debt secured by a nonbypassable charge to the customer's bill, which allows the electric utility to fully recover its costs at a lower interest rate for customers. This measure allows public utilities to securitize costs to implement the utility's wildfire risk mitigation plan and other investments in infrastructure improvements, modernization, and replacement needed to reduce wildfire risks and increase reliability and resilience to natural disasters and other weather-related events.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) With respect to the limitation on aggregate liability:
 - (A) Narrowing the scope on the limitation on aggregate liability only to electric utilities, rather than public utilities;
 - (B) Clarifying that joint and several liability do not apply to any qualifying damages;
 - (C) Requiring the Director of Hawaii Emergency Management to determine whether a wildfire is a covered catastrophic wildfire; and
 - (D) Specifying that qualifying damages does not include claims for physical bodily harm or emotional harm;
- (2) With respect to the authorization to securitize costs:
 - (A) Narrowing the scope of the authorization only to electric utilities, rather than public utilities;
 - (B) Clarifying the definition of "consumer";
 - (C) Specifying that the electric utility must, in good faith, seek the maximum federal funding to offset the costs of infrastructure; and
 - (D) Clarifying that the maximum \$500,000,000 for a financing order applies to the corporate family and inserting a definition for "corporate family";
- (3) Exempting the authority to issue bonds for securitization from the other existing requirements applicable to public utility corporations on the issuance of securities;
- (4) Establishing a working group within the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to examine the establishment and implementation of a wildfire recovery fund to provide efficient compensation for damage resulting from a future wildfire allegedly caused or exacerbated by an electric utility, with a report required to the Legislature before the Regular Session of 2026; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Consumer Protection & Commerce and Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 897, S.D. 3, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it be referred to your Committee on Finance, in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 897, S.D. 3, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Consumer Protection & Commerce: Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Tam, Pierick).

Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs: Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1504 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 146

The purpose of this measure is to amend the conditions and procedures for resolving various condominium-related disputes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Legislative Action Committee of the Community Associations Institute; Hawaii First Realty; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from AOA Lakeview Sands; Nakamoto Realty, LLC; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Real Estate Commission and one individual.

Your Committee finds that owners, tenants, and other persons who use condominium property are subject to the declarations and bylaws adopted by the condominium association and that those persons must strictly comply with the covenants, conditions, and restrictions set forth in the declaration, bylaws, and house rules. Your Committee further finds that the existing model of self-governance for condominium associations necessitates that condominium associations have mechanisms to enforce compliance. Furthermore, it is in the interests of unit owners and associations to resolve disputes in an efficient and equitable manner. This measure amends the conditions and procedures for resolving various condominium-related disputes.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that all costs and expenses, including attorneys' fees, incurred in connection with certain activities are to be promptly paid on demand, but may still be disputed;
- (2) Deleting all language relating to early neutral evaluation;
- (3) Specifying that the form of mediation that is mandatory is evaluative mediation;
- (4) Inserting amounts for the maximum support provided by the Condominium Education Trust Fund for evaluative mediation and binding arbitration to be \$3,500 and \$6,000, respectively;
- (5) Amending the required qualifications for mediators and arbitrators by:
 - (A) Specifying that the required qualification for mediators is three years of mediation experience, rather than five years of experience as a licensed attorney and an unspecified number of years of professional experience related to condominiums; and
 - (B) Specifying, for arbitrators, that the required minimum years of experience related to condominiums be at least two years;
- (6) Clarifying that a mediator's oral or written statement of evaluation shall only be available if the parties fail to settle during evaluative mediation;
- (7) Repealing the authority for the Real Estate Commission to require disputes to be submitted to nonbinding alternative dispute resolution;
- (8) Clarifying that requests for evaluative mediation must occur before the initiation of an action concerning the assessment; and

(9) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 146, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 146, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Tam, Pierick).

SCRep. 1505 Transportation on H.R. No. 29

The purpose of this measure is to request each county police department to increase enforcement against out-of-state vehicles operating on public roadways that have not been properly registered in the appropriate county.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that existing law requires out-of-state vehicles to either register with the appropriate county or obtain a permit that allows out-of-state registration and license plate to remain valid until they expire. Your Committee further finds that the State has a vested interest in ensuring that all vehicles operating on public roadways are properly registered and comply with state and county regulations, including vehicle registration.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 29 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 1506 Transportation on H.C.R. No. 30

The purpose of this measure is to request each county police department to increase enforcement against out-of-state vehicles operating on public roadways that have not been properly registered in the appropriate county.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that existing law requires out-of-state vehicles to either register with the appropriate county or obtain a permit that allows out-of-state registration and license plate to remain valid until they expire. Your Committee further finds that the State has a vested interest in ensuring that all vehicles operating on public roadways are properly registered and comply with state and county regulations, including vehicle registration.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 30 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 1507 Transportation on H.R. No. 197

The purpose of this measure is to urge the County of Maui and the United States Army Corps of Engineers to prioritize and expedite the planning, funding, and construction of a permanent replacement for the Kulanihakoī Bridge.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the current temporary construction solution at the Kulanihakoī Bridge may not provide the necessary long-term reliability and safety required for the region's infrastructure needs and that a permanent replacement would enhance transportation safety, improve flood management, and support the economic vitality of South Maui.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 197 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Public Safety.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 1508 Transportation on H.C.R. No. 205

The purpose of this measure is to urge the County of Maui and the United States Army Corps of Engineers to prioritize and expedite the planning, funding, and construction of a permanent replacement for the Kulanihakoī Bridge.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the current temporary construction solution at the Kulanihakoī Bridge may not provide the necessary long-term reliability and safety required for the region's infrastructure needs and that a permanent replacement would enhance transportation safety, improve flood management, and support the economic vitality of South Maui.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 205 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Public Safety.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 1509 Transportation on H.R. No. 193

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Transportation and Department of Transportation of the County of Maui to collaborate with the Kihei Community Association in the planning and implementation of the Kihei Mauka Road Project.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that the rapid growth of Kihei has led to significant transportation challenges, including congestion and frequent road closures, affecting residents' daily lives. This measure urges collaboration between agencies and stakeholders to provide an essential alternative route to improve traffic flow and community connectivity.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 193 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 1510 Transportation on H.C.R. No. 201

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Transportation and Department of Transportation of the County of Maui to collaborate with the Kihei Community Association in the planning and implementation of the Kihei Mauka Road Project.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that the rapid growth of Kihei has led to significant transportation challenges, including congestion and frequent road closures, affecting residents' daily lives. This measure urges collaboration between agencies and stakeholders to provide an essential alternative route to improve traffic flow and community connectivity.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 201 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 1511 Transportation on H.R. No. 37

The purpose of this measure is to request the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation to extend the Skyline rail project to the Westside of O'ahu.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the existing route of the Skyline rail project does not adequately serve the growing communities of Nānākuli, Ko 'Olina, Mā'ili, and the Westside of O'ahu. An extension of the project to the Westside of O'ahu will further alleviate traffic congestion and provide an alternative means of egress and ingress to these communities.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 37 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, 2 (Muraoka, Pierick). Excused, 3 (Cochran, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 1512 Transportation on H.C.R. No. 44

The purpose of this measure is to request the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation to extend the Skyline rail project to the Westside of O'ahu.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the existing route of the Skyline rail project does not adequately serve the growing communities of Nānākuli, Ko 'Olina, Mā'ili, and the Westside of O'ahu. An extension of the project to the Westside of O'ahu will further alleviate traffic congestion and provide an alternative means of egress and ingress to these communities.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 44 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, 2 (Muraoka, Pierick). Excused, 3 (Cochran, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 1513 Transportation on H.R. No. 195

The purpose of this measure is to urge the County of Maui to prioritize the development and planning of the northern terminus of the Kihei North-South Collector Road.

Your Committee did not receive any written testimony on this measure.

Your Committee finds that population projections indicate that the Kihei-Mākena area in Maui is anticipated to experience significant growth, further exacerbating traffic congestion and highlighting the urgent need for comprehensive infrastructure planning and the completion of the North-South Collector Road.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 195 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 1514 Transportation on H.C.R. No. 203

The purpose of this measure is to urge the County of Maui to prioritize the development and planning of the northern terminus of the Kihei North-South Collector Road.

Your Committee did not receive any written testimony on this measure.

Your Committee finds that population projections indicate that the Kihei-Mākena area in Maui is anticipated to experience significant growth, further exacerbating traffic congestion and highlighting the urgent need for comprehensive infrastructure planning and the completion of the North-South Collector Road.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 203 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 1515 Transportation on H.R. No. 119

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu to implement a Restricted Parking Zone Pilot Program in the Ko ‘Olina, Honokai Hale, Nānākuli, and Maili neighborhoods.

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

Your Committee finds that restricted parking zones are an effective tool for managing on-street parking in residential areas experiencing high demand from non-residents due to nearby traffic generators. The success of the Kalihi Valley Restricted Parking Zone Pilot Program demonstrated significant improvements in parking availability and reduced congestion and unauthorized parking.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 119 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 1516 Transportation on H.C.R. No. 123

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu to implement a Restricted Parking Zone Pilot Program in the Ko ‘Olina, Honokai Hale, Nānākuli, and Maili neighborhoods.

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

Your Committee finds that restricted parking zones are an effective tool for managing on-street parking in residential areas experiencing high demand from non-residents due to nearby traffic generators. The success of the Kalihi Valley Restricted Parking Zone Pilot Program demonstrated significant improvements in parking availability and reduced congestion and unauthorized parking.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 123 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 1517 Transportation on H.R. No. 64

The purpose of this measure is to request the Ko Olina Golf Club owners and management, in coordination with the Department of Transportation, to implement measures to prevent golf balls from reaching Farrington Highway.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and one individual.

Your Committee finds that increasing commuter traffic on Farrington Highway and the proximity of certain Ko Olina Golf Club holes pose a safety risk due to stray golf balls hitting vehicles and pedestrians. This measure seeks to mitigate potential accidents and injuries due to stray golf balls from Ko Olina Golf Club entering the Highway.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 64 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 1518 Transportation on H.C.R. No. 71

The purpose of this measure is to request the Ko Olina Golf Club owners and management, in coordination with the Department of Transportation, to implement measures to prevent golf balls from reaching Farrington Highway.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and one individual.

Your Committee finds that increasing commuter traffic on Farrington Highway and the proximity of certain Ko Olina Golf Club holes pose a safety risk due to stray golf balls hitting vehicles and pedestrians. This measure seeks to mitigate potential accidents and injuries due to stray golf balls from Ko Olina Golf Club entering the Highway.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 71 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 1519 Health on H.R. No. 87

The purpose of this measure is to request health insurers and managed care providers that provide health insurance in the State to provide insurance coverage for prosthetic and orthotic devices.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that more than eighteen thousand Hawaii residents live with limb loss, limb difference, and mobility impairments. Your Committee further finds that these individuals often rely on a single prosthetic or orthotic device, which is typically designed for limited mobility and does not accommodate activities such as running, cycling, or swimming, as health insurers routinely deny coverage for activity-specific prosthetics and orthotic devices. As a result, individuals with limb loss, limb difference, and mobility impairments must either pay out of pocket for these activity-specific devices or forgo these necessary tools entirely. This measure requests health insurers and managed care providers providing health insurance in the State to provide insurance coverage for these devices, which will allow individuals with disabilities to fully participate in their community and enjoy the same active lifestyle as their peers.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 87 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1520 Health on H.C.R. No. 91

The purpose of this measure is to request health insurers and managed care providers that provide health insurance in the State to provide insurance coverage for prosthetic and orthotic devices.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that more than eighteen thousand Hawaii residents live with limb loss, limb difference, and mobility impairments. Your Committee further finds that these individuals often rely on a single prosthetic or orthotic device, which is typically designed for limited mobility and does not accommodate activities such as running, cycling, or swimming, as health insurers routinely deny coverage for activity-specific prosthetics and orthotic devices. As a result, individuals with limb loss, limb difference, and mobility impairments must either pay out of pocket for these activity-specific devices or forgo these necessary tools entirely. This measure requests health insurers and managed care providers providing health insurance in the State to provide insurance coverage for these devices, which will allow individuals with disabilities to fully participate in their community and enjoy the same active lifestyle as their peers.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 91 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1521 Housing on H.R. No. 11

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to continue working with the City and County of Honolulu to efficiently transfer the roads within the Villages of Kapolei to the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Your Committee finds that the transfer of roads within the Villages of Kapolei to the City and County of Honolulu have been delayed for years due to the City and County of Honolulu establishing certain requirements to accept the dedication of the roads. This delay has left many residents of the Villages of Kapolei uncertain regarding who is responsible for maintenance, repairs, and overall infrastructure management. This measure will resolve a decades-old problem for residents of the Villages of Kapolei by requiring the public roads to be transferred no later than January 1, 2026.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 11 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Cochran, Kila, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 1522 Housing on H.C.R. No. 11

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to continue working with the City and County of Honolulu to efficiently transfer the roads within the Villages of Kapolei to the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Your Committee finds that the transfer of roads within the Villages of Kapolei to the City and County of Honolulu have been delayed for years due to the City and County of Honolulu establishing certain requirements to accept the dedication of the roads. This delay has left many residents of the Villages of Kapolei uncertain regarding who is responsible for maintenance, repairs, and overall infrastructure management. This measure will resolve a decades-old problem for residents of the Villages of Kapolei by requiring the public roads to be transferred no later than January 1, 2026.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 11 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Cochran, Kila, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 1523 Housing on H.C.R. No. 78

The purpose of this measure is to declare the intent that for projects with housing units that qualify for housing credits under Act 31, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, those projects are still eligible to receive housing credits after the repeal of that Act if the housing projects were approved by the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation before July 1, 2031, and requesting the Corporation and each county to include certain information when approving housing projects for housing credits.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation and NAIOP Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the State is facing a persistent and severe housing crisis, with thousands of new housing units needed across all counties to meet demand. Rising mortgage rates and construction financing costs have further exacerbated affordability challenges, making it critical to support the development of affordable housing. To address this, Act 31, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, was enacted to facilitate housing development through the issuance of housing credits, but uncertainty remains regarding the applicability of these credits after the Act's scheduled repeal in 2031. This measure will clarify the legislative intent to ensure that housing projects approved before July 1, 2031, remain eligible for housing credits, providing stability and certainty for developers working to alleviate the State's housing shortage.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 78 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Cochran, Kila, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 1524 Housing on H.R. No. 147

The purpose of this measure is to establish a legislative working group for the continued oversight of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' execution of funds appropriated by Act 279, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and one individual.

Your Committee finds that Act 279, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022 (Act 279), represented a historic investment by the State of \$600,000,000 to address the backlog of native Hawaiian applicants waiting for homestead leases. In response, the House of Representatives established the Act 279 Working Group to oversee the implementation of these funds and ensure accountability in their use. Through public hearings and discussions, the Working Group identified the need for continued oversight to track progress and ensure that projects funded under Act 279 effectively support native Hawaiian families. This measure will ensure continued transparency, accountability, and ongoing legislative engagement in addressing the housing needs of native Hawaiians.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 147 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Cochran, Kila, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 1525 Health on H.C.R. No. 35

The purpose of this measure is to request the Auditor to assess the social and financial effects of mandatory health insurance coverage for biomarker testing.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Health Planning and Development Agency; Alzheimer's Association-Hawaii; Oncology Nursing Society; Hawai'i Parkinson Association; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Liberty Dialysis Hawai'i; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; a petition signed by over two hundred individuals; and nine individuals.

Your Committee finds that biomarker testing is an invaluable tool in the diagnosis, treatment, appropriate management, and ongoing monitoring of diseases or conditions. Your Committee further finds that although the Auditor previously assessed the social and financial effects of mandatory health insurance coverage for biomarker testing, as proposed by House Bill No. 2223, H.D. 1, Regular Session of 2024 (HB 2223), the proposed coverage was only for cases where biomarker testing was deemed medically necessary. Your Committee believes that, given the diverse and beneficial ways biomarker tests may be used in clinical practice, including disease screening tests and predictive tests, biomarker testing should not be limited solely to cases of medical necessity. This measure therefore requests the Auditor to conduct a statutorily required impact assessment report on the social and financial effects of the mandated health insurance coverage for biomarker testing as proposed by House Bill No. 553, Regular Session of 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 35 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1526 Health on H.C.R. No. 36

The purpose of this measure is to request the Auditor to assess the social and financial effects of proposed mandatory health insurance coverage for colorectal cancer screenings.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Health Planning and Development Agency; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Mālama I Ke Ola Health Center; Fight Colorectal Cancer; and seven individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health and Office of the Auditor.

Your Committee finds that although colorectal cancer is the third leading cause of cancer in Hawaii and the third leading cause of cancer deaths nationwide, not all residents of Hawaii have access to health insurance that provides no-cost colorectal cancer screening. Your Committee further finds that House Bill No. 556, H.D. 1, Regular Session of 2025 (HB556), proposes expanding existing health insurance mandates to cover colorectal cancer screenings, which would be considered a new mandated health insurance benefit.

Your Committee further finds that, pursuant to sections 23-51 and 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the social and financial impact of a proposed mandated health insurance benefit must be assessed by the Auditor before it can be enacted into law. This measure therefore requests the Auditor to conduct a statutorily required impact assessment report on the social and financial effects of the new mandated health insurance benefit proposed by HB556.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 36 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1527 Health on H.C.R. No. 171

The purpose of this measure is to request the Auditor to assess the social and financial effects of proposed mandatory health insurance coverage for continuous glucose monitors.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Health Planning and Development Agency; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawaii Medical Association; Liberty Dialysis Hawai'i; Board of Trustees of the Hilo Benioff Medical Center Foundation; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that although continuous glucose monitors provide real-time data and trends on blood glucose levels that surpass the limited information available through traditional blood glucose meters, these devices are not covered by all health insurers. Your Committee further finds that House Bill No. 820, Regular Session of 2025 (HB820), proposes requiring all health insurers in the State, including Medicaid managed care plans, to cover continuous glucose monitors, which would be considered a new mandated health insurance benefit.

Your Committee further finds that, pursuant to sections 23-51 and 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the social and financial impact of a proposed mandated health insurance benefit must be assessed by the Auditor before it can be enacted into law. This measure therefore requests the Auditor to conduct a statutorily required impact assessment report on the social and financial effects of the new mandated health insurance benefit proposed by HB820.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 171 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1528 Health on H.C.R. No. 185

The purpose of this measure is to request the Auditor to conduct a social and financial assessment of proposed mandatory health insurance coverage for Native Hawaiian healing and cultural practices offered through federally qualified health centers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Waimānalo Health Center; Hāna Health; Mālama I Ke Ola Health Center; Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i; Leeward Massage Therapy Center; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Papa Ola Lōkahi.

Your Committee finds that although multiple federally qualified health centers in the State offer Native Hawaiian healing practices in tandem with other western health care practices, only two health insurers voluntarily provide coverage for these services. Your Committee further finds that House Bill No. 641, Regular Session of 2025 (HB641), proposes requiring, among other things, all health insurers in the State to cover Native Hawaiian healing and cultural practices offered through federally qualified health centers, which would be considered a new mandated health insurance benefit.

Your Committee further finds that, pursuant to sections 23-51 and 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the social and financial impact of a proposed mandated health insurance benefit must be assessed by the Auditor before it can be enacted into law. This measure therefore requests the Auditor to conduct a statutorily required impact assessment report on the social and financial effects of the new mandated health insurance benefit proposed by HB641.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 185 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1529 Health on H.R. No. 27

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Health to reconvene the working group established pursuant to House Resolution No. 18, H.D. 1 (Regular Session of 2024) to continue efforts to address issues related to water and air contamination and remediation from the operation of the Puuloa Range Training Facility.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i; Hawai‘i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Free Access Coalition; Shimanchu Wai Protectors; Relocate Pu‘uloa Range Coalition; Malu ‘Aina Center for Non-violent Education & Action; Sierra Club of Hawai‘i and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that the working group established by House Resolution No. 18, H.D. 1 (Regular Session of 2024) (HR18) to address concerns of lead contamination from the Puuloa Range Training Facility will cease on June 30, 2025. Your Committee further finds that the longstanding issues surrounding this facility remains; therefore, the activities of the working group should be continued.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the working group should consist of the members originally requested or invited to serve on the working group pursuant to HR18 and that the Director of Health, or the Director's designee, is requested to serve as an additional member of the working group, rather than as its chair;
- (2) Requesting the Representative of House District 40 and Councilmember for District 9 of the City and County of Honolulu to serve as co-chairs and co-conveners of the working group;
- (3) Amending the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure;
- (4) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 27, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 27, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1530 Health on H.C.R. No. 28

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Health to reconvene the working group established pursuant to House Resolution No. 18, H.D. 1 (Regular Session of 2024) to continue efforts to address issues related to water and air contamination and remediation from the operation of the Puuloa Range Training Facility.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i; Hawai‘i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Free Access Coalition; Shimanchu Wai Protectors; Relocate Pu‘uloa Range Coalition; Malu ‘Aina Center for Non-violent Education & Action; Sierra Club of Hawai‘i and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that the working group established by House Resolution No. 18, H.D. 1 (Regular Session of 2024) (HR18) to address concerns of lead contamination from the Puuloa Range Training Facility will cease on June 30, 2025. Your Committee further finds that the longstanding issues surrounding this facility remains; therefore, the activities of the working group should be continued.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the working group should consist of the members originally requested or invited to serve on the working group pursuant to HR18 and that the Director of Health, or the Director's designee, is requested to serve as an additional member of the working group, rather than as its chair;
- (2) Requesting the Representative of House District 40 and Councilmember for District 9 of the City and County of Honolulu to serve as co-chairs and co-conveners of the working group;
- (3) Amending the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure;
- (4) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 28, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 28, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1531 Health on H.R. No. 169

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Health to undertake preliminary education, outreach, and vaccination drive efforts at schools in Hawaii with vaccination rates under fifty percent, prioritizing schools with vaccination rates under thirty percent, beginning at the start of the 2025-2026 school year.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; State Health Planning and Development Agency; Hawaii Medical Association; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Hawaii Academy of Family Physicians Legislative Committee; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Patriot Republicans; Hawaiian Islands Republican Women; Free Citizens of Maunaloa; Pono Records; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that high vaccination rates are critical to maintaining herd immunity, which protects immunocompromised or otherwise vulnerable individuals from potentially fatal infectious diseases such as measles and smallpox through. Your Committee further finds according to the Department of Health, in the 2022-2023 school year the kindergarten MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella) vaccine coverage rate was approximately eighty-six percent, well below the ninety-five percent coverage rate recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and that in some private schools, over sixty percent of children are unvaccinated. Your Committee believes that promoting vaccination education, as proposed by this measure, to educate parents and students on the important role vaccinations play in protecting the most vulnerable members of a community and to dispel myths about the dangers of vaccination, is necessary to promote the public health and ensure Hawaii's children do not suffer unnecessary harm from entirely preventable diseases.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the Department of Health to undertake preliminary education, outreach, and vaccination drive efforts at schools with vaccination rates under thirty percent, rather than at schools under fifty percent with prioritization given to schools under thirty percent;
- (2) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 169, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Education in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 169, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Olds). Noes, 2 (Alcos, Garcia). Excused, none.

SCRep. 1532 Health on H.C.R. No. 173

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Health to undertake preliminary education, outreach, and vaccination drive efforts at schools in Hawaii with vaccination rates under fifty percent, prioritizing schools with vaccination rates under thirty percent, beginning at the start of the 2025-2026 school year.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Department of Health; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; State Health Planning and Development Agency; Hawaii Medical Association; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Hawaii Academy of Family Physicians Legislative Committee; and six individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Patriot Republicans; Cavalry Chapel Westside; Hawaiian Islands Republican Women; Free Citizens of Maunaloa; Pono Records; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that high vaccination rates are critical to maintaining herd immunity, which protects immunocompromised or otherwise vulnerable individuals from potentially fatal infectious diseases such as measles and smallpox through. Your Committee further finds according to the Department of Health, in the 2022-2023 school year the kindergarten MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella) vaccine coverage rate was approximately eighty-six percent, well below the ninety-five percent coverage rate recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and that in some private schools, over sixty percent of children are unvaccinated. Your Committee believes that promoting vaccination education, as proposed by this measure, to educate parents and students on the important role vaccinations play in protecting the most vulnerable members of a community and to dispel myths about the dangers of vaccination, is necessary to promote the public health and ensure Hawaii's children do not suffer unnecessary harm from entirely preventable diseases.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the Department of Health to undertake preliminary education, outreach, and vaccination drive efforts at schools with vaccination rates under thirty percent, rather than at schools under fifty percent with prioritization given to schools under thirty percent;
- (2) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 173, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Education in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 173, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Olds). Noes, 2 (Alcos, Garcia). Excused, none.

SCRep. 1533 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.R. No. 153

The purpose of this measure is to establish a working group dedicated to researching and improving the landlord-tenant code.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Hawaii Realtors and from one individual. Your Committee received testimony providing comments from the State Department of the Attorney General and from the Maui Tenants and Workers Association.

Your Committee finds that clarifying and improving landlord-tenant laws will support the vitality of rental housing in Hawaii, and that addressing other relevant landlord-tenant issues would provide an opportunity for collaboration among key stakeholders. Your Committee acknowledges commentary from the State Attorney General regarding concerns about convening the working group.

Your committee notes the Judiciary's support of S.B. No. 822, Regular Session of 2025, which this committee heard previously, and its willingness to convene the working group.

Your Committee has therefore amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the convening entity from the Attorney General to the Judiciary;
- (2) Narrowing the scope of this Resolution by removing the request to identify the potential availability of housing stock not offered for rent;
- (3) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 153, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 153, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 1534 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.C.R. No. 158

The purpose of this measure is to establish a working group dedicated to researching and improving the landlord-tenant code.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Hawaii Realtors and from one individual. Your Committee received testimony providing comments from the State Department of the Attorney General and from the Maui Tenants and Workers Association.

Your Committee finds that clarifying and improving landlord-tenant laws will support the vitality of rental housing in Hawaii, and that addressing other relevant landlord-tenant issues would provide an opportunity for collaboration among key stakeholders. Your Committee acknowledges commentary from the State Attorney General regarding concerns about convening the working group.

Your committee notes the Judiciary's support of S.B. No. 822, Regular Session of 2025, which this committee heard previously, and its willingness to convene the working group.

Your Committee has therefore amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the convening entity from the Attorney General to the Judiciary;
- (2) Narrowing the scope of this Concurrent Resolution by removing the request to identify the potential availability of housing stock not offered for rent;
- (3) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 158, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 158, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 1535 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.R. No. 23

The purpose of this measure is to develop a framework for the regulation of condominium association managers by requesting that the State Office of the Auditor:

- (1) conduct a follow-up sunrise review as proposed by S.B. No. 1454, Regular Session of 2005;
- (2) examine alternative regulatory frameworks for the regulation of condominium association managers;
- (3) submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature; and
- (4) receive a certified copy of this Resolution.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Office of the Auditor; Hawaii Realtors; Hawaii Real Estate Commission; and from five individuals.

Your Committee finds that section 26H-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, of the Hawaii Regulatory Licensing Reform Act requires specific legislative bills, subjecting unregulated professions and vocations to licensing or other regulatory controls, to be referred to the Auditor for analysis.

Your Committee further finds that H.B. No. 1312, Regular Session of 2025, contains the scope of duties for condominium association managers.

Your Committee also notes that S.B. No. 1454, Regular Session of 2005, was introduced more than 20 years ago and refers to sections that were repealed in 2017.

Your Committee has therefore amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the Auditor to conduct a sunrise analysis on H.B. No. 1312, Regular Session of 2025, and replacing WHEREAS clauses on page 2 accordingly;
- (2) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose;
- (3) Removing the request to examine alternative regulatory frameworks; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 23, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 23, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 1536 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.C.R. No. 24

The purpose of this measure is to develop a framework for the regulation of condominium association managers by requesting that the State Office of the Auditor:

- (1) conduct a follow-up sunrise review as proposed by S.B. No. 1454, Regular Session of 2005;
- (2) examine alternative regulatory frameworks for the regulation of condominium association managers;
- (3) submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature; and
- (4) receive a certified copy of this Concurrent Resolution.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Office of the Auditor; Hawaii Realtors; Hawaii Real Estate Commission; and from five individuals.

Your Committee finds that section 26H-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, of the Hawaii Regulatory Licensing Reform Act requires specific legislative bills, subjecting unregulated professions and vocations to licensing or other regulatory controls, to be referred to the Auditor for analysis.

Your Committee further finds that H.B. No. 1312, Regular Session of 2025, contains the scope of duties for condominium association managers.

Your Committee also notes that S.B. No. 1454, Regular Session of 2005, was introduced more than 20 years ago and refers to sections that were repealed in 2017.

Your Committee has therefore amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the Auditor to conduct a sunrise analysis on H.B. No. 1312, Regular Session of 2025, and replacing WHEREAS clauses on page 2 accordingly;
- (2) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose;
- (3) Removing the request to examine alternative regulatory frameworks; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 24, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 24, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 1537 Education on H.R. No. 105

The purpose of this measure is to declare that the Legislature supports free and responsible scholastic journalism and actively supports and honors the First Amendment of the United States Constitution in student publications.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Society of Professional Journalists Hawaii Professional Chapter; Student Press Law Center; Media Council Hawaii; and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Education distributes to every student a Student Publication/Audio/Video Release Form (Release Form) as a means to protect students' rights to privacy under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment. This Release Form must be returned with a parent's signature to authorize the Department of Education to use a student's name and likeness, photo, video, or audio in school-related publication print, analog media, and digital media. Your Committee further finds that the Hawaii Student Journalism Protection Act, enacted under Act 24, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, and Board of Education Policy 101-9 allows student journalists at public schools to exercise freedom of speech and freedom of the press in school-sponsored media, and protects advisers from retaliation for refusing to infringe upon student press freedom.

Your Committee notes that FERPA only restricts the release of information by school officials; outside parties, including student journalists, who are neither employees nor agents of the school, are not covered by FERPA. Minors can give consent as long as they are cognitively able to understand what it means to talk to a journalist. Your Committee believes that applying FERPA to student media through the Release Form is unnecessarily placing prior constraint on student journalists.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the Department of Education is requested to inform administrators that parent consent is not a legal requirement for publishing student names and photos in school-sponsored student-produced media, revise the current Release Form to remove any language that would lead a reasonable person to assume the Release Form applies to school-sponsored student-produced media, and update the Department's website related to student privacy to align with the revised Release Form no later than December 31, 2025; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 105, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 105, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Garrett, Kapela, Sayama, Muraoka).

SCRep. 1538 Education on H.C.R. No. 109

The purpose of this measure is to declare that the Legislature supports free and responsible scholastic journalism and actively supports and honors the First Amendment of the United States Constitution in student publications.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Society of Professional Journalists Hawaii Professional Chapter; Student Press Law Center; Media Council Hawaii; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Education distributes to every student a Student Publication/Audio/Video Release Form (Release Form) as a means to protect students' rights to privacy under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment. This Release Form must be returned with a parent's signature to authorize the Department of Education to use a student's name and likeness, photo, video, or audio in school-related publication print, analog media, and digital media. Your Committee further finds that the Hawaii Student Journalism Protection Act, enacted under Act 24, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, and Board of Education Policy 101-9 allows student journalists at public schools to exercise freedom of speech and freedom of the press in school-sponsored media, and protects advisers from retaliation for refusing to infringe upon student press freedom.

Your Committee notes that FERPA only restricts the release of information by school officials; outside parties, including student journalists, who are neither employees nor agents of the school, are not covered by FERPA. Minors can give consent as long as they are cognitively able to understand what it means to talk to a journalist. Your Committee believes that applying FERPA to student media through the Release Form is unnecessarily placing prior constraint on student journalists.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the Department of Education is requested to inform administrators that parent consent is not a legal requirement for publishing student names and photos in school-sponsored student-produced media, revise the current Release Form to remove any language that would lead a reasonable person to assume the Release Form applies to school-sponsored student-produced media, and update the Department's website related to student privacy to align with the revised Release Form no later than December 31, 2025; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 109, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 109, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Garrett, Kapela, Sayama, Muraoka).

SCRep. 1539 Education on H.R. No. 179

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Education, in collaboration with the Department of Health and State Public Charter School Commission, to conduct a study on the practices of managing heat exposure in department schools and charter schools to protect students' health during outdoor activities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; State Public Charter School Commission; and Hawaii Climate Change and Health Working Group.

Your Committee finds that rising air temperatures and the State's high average relative humidity pose a significant challenge to human thermoregulation, particularly for individuals exercising outdoors where high humidity reduces the effectiveness of the body's ability to cool itself through sweating. Your Committee further finds that the dangers of exertional heat illness are particularly high for children, who have reduced thermoregulation capabilities and slower heat acclimatization compared to adults. Your Committee believes that an in-depth study is necessary to determine the best practices for managing heat exposure and to develop a plan if the existing practices of managing heat exposure in department schools and charter schools are insufficient in ensuring student safety from heat exposure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 179 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Health.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Garrett, Kapela, Sayama, Muraoka).

SCRep. 1540 Education on H.C.R. No. 186

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Education, in collaboration with the Department of Health and State Public Charter School Commission, to conduct a study on the practices of managing heat exposure in department schools and charter schools to protect students' health during outdoor activities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Department of Health; State Public Charter School Commission; and Hawaii Climate Change and Health Working Group.

Your Committee finds that rising air temperatures and the State's high average relative humidity pose a significant challenge to human thermoregulation, particularly for individuals exercising outdoors where high humidity reduces the effectiveness of the body's ability to cool itself through sweating. Your Committee further finds that the dangers of exertional heat illness are particularly high for children, who have reduced thermoregulation capabilities and slower heat acclimatization compared to adults. Your Committee believes that an in-depth study is necessary to determine the best practices for managing heat exposure and to develop a plan if the existing practices of managing heat exposure in department schools and charter schools are insufficient in ensuring student safety from heat exposure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 186 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Health.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Garrett, Kapela, Sayama, Muraoka).

SCRep. 1541 Education on H.R. No. 139

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Education, Department of Health, and other relevant stakeholders to collaborate and develop a strategic plan for Hawaii's pursuit of funding for and participation in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's public health surveillance for estimating autism prevalence.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities; BAYADA; Hawai'i Early Intervention Coordinating Council; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Hawai'i Association for Behavior Analysis; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that autism spectrum disorder is a neurodevelopmental condition that affects brain development and unfolds across an individual's lifespan, impacting social communication, behavior, and daily functioning. Your Committee further finds that the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (ADDM) Network has been the primary source of autism prevalence data in the United States, but Hawaii has never been included in this national surveillance effort. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention is open to assisting in estimating autism prevalence across the State and training local teams in established public health surveillance protocols. Your Committee believes that Hawaii's participation in systematic autism monitoring is an opportunity to attract national attention and additional funding for training, recruitment, and retention to support children with autism and their families.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 139 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Health.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Garrett, Kapela, Sayama, Muraoka).

SCRep. 1542 Education on H.C.R. No. 145

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Education, Department of Health, and other relevant stakeholders to collaborate and develop a strategic plan for Hawaii's pursuit of funding for and participation in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's public health surveillance for estimating autism prevalence.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities; BAYADA; Hawai'i Early Intervention Coordinating Council; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Hawai'i Association for Behavior Analysis; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that autism spectrum disorder is a neurodevelopmental condition that affects brain development and unfolds across an individual's lifespan, impacting social communication, behavior, and daily functioning. Your Committee further finds that the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (ADDM) Network has been the primary source of autism prevalence data in the United States, but Hawaii has never been included in this national surveillance effort. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention is open to assisting in estimating autism prevalence across the State and training local teams in established public health surveillance protocols. Your Committee believes that Hawaii's participation in systematic autism monitoring is an opportunity to attract national attention and additional funding for training, recruitment, and retention to support children with autism and their families.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 145 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Health.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Garrett, Kapela, Sayama, Muraoka).

SCRep. 1543 Education on H.R. No. 106

The purpose of this measure is to request that the Auditor conduct an audit of the Department of Education's capital improvement projects.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from four individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Education is responsible for the repair and maintenance of 4,425 buildings statewide. Your Committee further finds that the Department of Education received nearly \$1,000,000,000 in the 2021–2023 fiscal biennium for capital improvement project appropriations. As of January 2024, the Department of Education had over \$2,000,000,000 in unspent capital improvement program funds at school facilities. Your Committee believes that an audit of the Department of Education will help identify any shortcomings in the current distribution of funds and determine any necessary changes to increase the efficiency of the Department of Education's capital improvement repair and maintenance projects.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 106 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Garrett, Kapela, Sayama, Muraoka).

SCRep. 1544 Education on H.C.R. No. 110

The purpose of this measure is to request that the Auditor conduct an audit of the Department of Education's capital improvement projects.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Education is responsible for the repair and maintenance of 4,425 buildings statewide. Your Committee further finds that the Department of Education received nearly \$1,000,000,000 in the 2021–2023 fiscal biennium for capital improvement project appropriations. As of January 2024, the Department of Education had over \$2,000,000,000 in unspent capital improvement program funds at school facilities. Your Committee believes that an audit of the Department of Education will help identify any shortcomings in the current distribution of funds and determine any necessary changes to increase the efficiency of the Department of Education's capital improvement repair and maintenance projects.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 110 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Garrett, Kapela, Sayama, Muraoka).

SCRep. 1545 Culture & Arts on H.R. No. 90

The purpose of this measure is to request the Governor to issue a proclamation designating Hawaii as a Purple Heart State on August 7, 2025.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Purple Heart is one of the most recognized, respected, and oldest military decorations awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces and only awarded to those service members who have been injured or killed in military service to the United States. Your Committee believes that given the State's deep military history, it is proper for the State to specifically honor the sacrifices of service members who have received the Purple Heart and demonstrate appreciation for its veterans.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 90 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Public Safety.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Sayama, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 1546 Culture & Arts on H.C.R. No. 94

The purpose of this measure is to request the Governor to issue a proclamation designating Hawaii as a Purple Heart State on August 7, 2025.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Purple Heart is one of the most recognized, respected, and oldest military decorations awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces and only awarded to those service members who have been injured or killed in military service to the United States. Your Committee believes that given the State's deep military history, it is proper for the State to specifically honor the sacrifices of service members who have received the Purple Heart and demonstrate appreciation for its veterans.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 94 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Public Safety.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Sayama, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 1547 Culture & Arts on H.R. No. 156

The purpose of this measure is to urge all of the counties to establish new Sister City relationships with other Pacific Island municipalities.

Your Committee did not receive any written testimony on this measure.

Your Committee finds that the success of the 13th Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture (FestPAC), hosted for the first time by Hawaii in its fifty-two-year history in June 2024, demonstrates the value and importance of fostering relationships between Hawaii and its Pacific Island neighbors. Your Committee also finds that Sister City programs encourage exchanges in arts and culture, youth and education, business and trade, and community development. Your Committee believes that expanding Sister City relationships between Hawaii and additional Pacific Island communities would strengthen regional ties and further cultivate a shared appreciation of one another's people, history, and culture.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 156 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 1548 Culture & Arts on H.C.R. No. 161

The purpose of this measure is to urge all of the counties to establish new Sister City relationships with other Pacific Island municipalities.

Your Committee did not receive any written testimony on this measure.

Your Committee finds that the success of the 13th Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture (FestPAC), hosted for the first time by Hawaii in its fifty-two-year history in June 2024, demonstrates the value and importance of fostering relationships between Hawaii and its Pacific Island neighbors. Your Committee also finds that Sister City programs encourage exchanges in arts and culture, youth and education, business and trade, and community development. Your Committee believes that expanding Sister City relationships between Hawaii and additional Pacific Island communities would strengthen regional ties and further cultivate a shared appreciation of one another's people, history, and culture.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 161 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Economic Development & Technology.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 1549 Culture & Arts on H.R. No. 123

The purpose of this measure is to urge the State to acquire the Hawaii Theatre to promote local culture and arts, preserve its historic and cultural significance, and facilitate its continued public use.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Theatre Center and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Hawaii Theatre, located in downtown Honolulu, is a historic landmark that has served as a cultural and performing arts center since opening in 1922. The Theatre has played a significant role in the State's cultural and artistic heritage by hosting performances, concerts, and community events that celebrate the State's diverse history and traditions. Your Committee further finds that the State has invested approximately \$30,000,000 in public grants and assistance for the renovation and preservation of the Hawaii Theater to further its efforts in promoting the historic preservation, economic revitalization, and cultural enrichment in Hawaii. Your Committee therefore believes that public ownership of the Hawaii Theatre by the State will ensure the Theatre's long-term preservation, enable necessary renovations and improvements, and expand access to arts and cultural programming for residents and visitors.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 123 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 1550 Culture & Arts on H.C.R. No. 127

The purpose of this measure is to urge the State to acquire the Hawaii Theatre to promote local culture and arts, preserve its historic and cultural significance, and facilitate its continued public use.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Theatre Center and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Hawaii Theatre, located in downtown Honolulu, is a historic landmark that has served as a cultural and performing arts center since opening in 1922. The Theatre has played a significant role in the State's cultural and artistic heritage by hosting performances, concerts, and community events that celebrate the State's diverse history and traditions. Your Committee further finds that the State has invested approximately \$30,000,000 in public grants and assistance for the renovation and preservation of the Hawaii Theater to further its efforts in promoting the historic preservation, economic revitalization, and cultural enrichment in Hawaii. Your Committee therefore believes that public ownership of the Hawaii Theatre by the State will ensure the Theatre's long-term preservation, enable necessary renovations and improvements, and expand access to arts and cultural programming for residents and visitors.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 127 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 1551 Culture & Arts on H.R. No. 135

The purpose of this measure is to request the establishment of a working group to study the feasibility of creating a Hawaii Cultural Trust to preserve and promote Hawaii's cultural resources.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts; Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission; and Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

Your Committee finds that sustained investment in cultural preservation, heritage, and the arts supports economic growth, education, tourism, and the overall well-being of the people of Hawaii. Your Committee also finds that various states have successful cultural trusts that could be used as models for sustainable funding of cultural organizations by leveraging donations and tax incentives to support arts and heritage programs. Your Committee believes that establishing a Hawaii Cultural Trust will enhance financial sustainability for cultural institutions and the arts and provide long-term support for the preservation and promotion of Hawaii's cultural resources.

Your Committee recognizes the cultural impact of Hawai'i's māhū, LGBTQIA+, QTPI+, and MVPFAFF+ communities on the State and therefore finds it appropriate to include these communities in this critical discussion, as it presents an opportunity for their contributions to the cultural, spiritual, and social fabric of Hawai'i to be preserved as well.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Including a representative from the Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission to participate in the working group; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 135, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 135, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 1552 Culture & Arts on H.C.R. No. 141

The purpose of this measure is to request the establishment of a working group to study the feasibility of creating a Hawaii Cultural Trust to preserve and promote Hawaii's cultural resources.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts; Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission; and Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

Your Committee finds that sustained investment in cultural preservation, heritage, and the arts supports economic growth, education, tourism, and the overall well-being of the people of Hawaii. Your Committee also finds that various states have successful cultural trusts that could be used as models for sustainable funding of cultural organizations by leveraging donations and tax incentives to support arts and heritage programs. Your Committee believes that establishing a Hawaii Cultural Trust will enhance financial sustainability for cultural institutions and the arts and provide long-term support for the preservation and promotion of Hawaii's cultural resources.

Your Committee recognizes the cultural impact of Hawai'i's māhū, LGBTQIA+, QTPI+, and MVPFAFF+ communities on the State and therefore finds it appropriate to include these communities in this critical discussion, as it presents an opportunity for their contributions to the cultural, spiritual, and social fabric of Hawai'i to be preserved as well.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Including a representative from the Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission to participate in the working group; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 141, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 141, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 1553 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.R. No. 192

The purpose of this measure is to urge the State Department of Agriculture and the County of Maui Department of Agriculture to:

- (1) Take further meaningful action to address the axis deer overpopulations by implementing policies to make United States Department of Agriculture-certified in-state inspectors, certified inspections, and certified processing facilities more accessible, capable, and affordable for local hunters to utilize and by implementing policies to increase the amount of certified United States Department of Agriculture in-state meat inspectors for game mammals; and

- (2) To convene a joint task force to oversee the County of Maui program that, in coordination with the United States Department of Agriculture certified processing facilities, would aim to investigate and develop plans to make affordable the processing of locally hunted axis deer meat and the distribution of this venison to the community; and
- (3) Request the joint task force to submit a report of the program's accomplishments and barriers with its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than November 30, 2025.

Your Committee received no testimony on this measure.

Your Committee finds that eating locally grown food and meats benefits the local economy and our citizens, and the people of the State deserve access to many local foods, including locally hunted meat. Your Committee further finds that the overpopulation of axis deer on Maui has led to the overgrazing of native plants that would otherwise aid in mitigating erosion, wildfires, and flooding. Your Committee recognizes that axis deer are a plentiful source of high-quality protein and that other states have successfully implemented programs that process and distribute locally hunted meat to their communities. An increase of in-state United States Department of Agriculture-certified meat inspectors would lower the cost of inspections for local hunters, provide a benefit to the agricultural industry in the State, and make locally hunted venison more available and safer for the community to consume. This measure urges the State Department of Agriculture and the County of Maui Department of Agriculture to take further action to address axis deer overpopulation by improving access to USDA-certified inspectors and processing facilities, convening a joint task force to develop an affordable venison processing and distribution program, and requiring the task force to report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature by November 30, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 192 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Lowen, Ward).

SCRep. 1554 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.C.R. No. 200

The purpose of this measure is to urge the State Department of Agriculture and the County of Maui Department of Agriculture to:

- (1) Take further meaningful action to address the axis deer overpopulations by implementing policies to make United States Department of Agriculture-certified in-state inspectors, certified inspections, and certified processing facilities more accessible, capable, and affordable for local hunters to utilize and by implementing policies to increase the amount of certified United States Department of Agriculture in-state meat inspectors for game mammals; and
- (2) To convene a joint task force to oversee the County of Maui program that, in coordination with the United States Department of Agriculture certified processing facilities, would aim to investigate and develop plans to make affordable the processing of locally hunted axis deer meat and the distribution of this venison to the community; and
- (3) Request the joint task force to submit a report of the program's accomplishments and barriers with its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than November 30, 2025.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that eating locally grown food and meats benefits the local economy and our citizens, and the people of the State deserve access to many local foods, including locally hunted meat. Your Committee further finds that the overpopulation of axis deer on Maui has led to the overgrazing of native plants that would otherwise aid in mitigating erosion, wildfires, and flooding. Your Committee recognizes that axis deer are a plentiful source of high-quality protein and that other states have successfully implemented programs that process and distribute locally hunted meat to their communities. An increase of in-state United States Department of Agriculture-certified meat inspectors would lower the cost of inspections for local hunters, provide a benefit to the agricultural industry in the State, and make locally hunted venison more available and safer for the community to consume. This measure urges the State Department of Agriculture and the County of Maui Department of Agriculture to take further action to address axis deer overpopulation by improving access to USDA-certified inspectors and processing facilities, convening a joint task force to develop an affordable venison processing and distribution program, and requiring the task force to report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature by November 30, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 200 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Lowen, Ward).

SCRep. 1555 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.R. No. 36

The purpose of this measure is to encourage each county to establish its own biosecurity plan prioritizing the needs of the county, to encourage collaboration between counties in developing its biosecurity plan, and to encourage sharing each county's findings and biosecurity plan and collaborate with the State, including the Department of Agriculture and Hawaii Invasive Species Council.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Expanding each county's biosecurity plan to include identifying proposals for legislative changes at the State and county levels; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee finds that the impacts of invasive species on the State lead to habitat degradation, extinction of native species, and rising costs in agriculture and livestock production, and that strengthening biosecurity is critical in preventing the introduction and spread of invasive species that threaten the local ecosystems, food security, and public health. Your Committee further finds that each county faces unique biosecurity challenges, thus localized approaches to strengthening biosecurity at the county level will enable proactive identification of risks, enhance early detection and rapid response efforts, and improve coordination with state and federal agencies, while also allowing each county to prioritize its biosecurity needs and develop community-based strategies for invasive species mitigation. This measure encourages each county to establish a localized approach for strengthening its biosecurity plan and to collaborate and share its biosecurity plan and findings with other counties and the State, including the Department of Agriculture and Hawaii Invasive Species Council.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 36, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 36, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Lowen, Ward).

SCRep. 1556 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.C.R. No. 42

The purpose of this measure is to encourage each county to establish its own biosecurity plan prioritizing the needs of the county, to encourage collaboration between counties in developing its biosecurity plan, and to encourage sharing each county's findings and biosecurity plan and collaborate with the State, including the Department of Agriculture and Hawaii Invasive Species Council.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Expanding each county's biosecurity plan to include identifying proposals for legislative changes at the State and county levels; and
Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee finds that the impacts of invasive species on the State lead to habitat degradation, extinction of native species, and rising costs in agriculture and livestock production, and that strengthening biosecurity is critical in preventing the introduction and spread of invasive species that threaten the local ecosystems, food security, and public health. Your Committee further finds that each county faces unique biosecurity challenges, thus localized approaches to strengthening biosecurity at the county level will enable proactive identification of risks, enhance early detection and rapid response efforts, and improve coordination with state and federal agencies, while also allowing each county to prioritize its biosecurity needs and develop community-based strategies for invasive species mitigation. This measure encourages each county to establish a localized approach for strengthening its biosecurity plan and to collaborate and share its biosecurity plan and findings with other counties and the State, including the Department of Agriculture and Hawaii Invasive Species Council.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 42, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 42, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Lowen, Ward).

SCRep. 1557 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.R. No. 26

The purpose of this measure is to request Hawaii's congressional delegation to petition the United States Department of Agriculture to address the lack of parity between Hawaii and other states and territories pertaining to the export of agricultural goods.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii is the only state in the nation regulated similarly to the United States territories. Under title 7 Code of Federal Regulations part 318, the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States Department of Agriculture may prohibit or restrict the movement in interstate commerce of any plant or plant product from Hawaii and the territories, unless specifically allowed, to the continental United States to prevent the introduction of plant pests on the continent. Unfortunately, the allowable list is limited and Hawaii waits in the same queue as foreign countries seeking to export products into the United States, and shipments of fruits and vegetables require quarantine treatment, inspection, and authorization by the United States Department of Agriculture, severely limiting the State's exports.

Your Committee further finds that a petition must be submitted to the United States Department of Agriculture in order for the State to add more agricultural commodities to the allowable list. This measure requests that Hawaii's congressional delegation petition the United States Department of Agriculture to address the lack of parity between Hawaii and other states and territories pertaining to the export of agricultural goods.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 26 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Lowen, Ward).

SCRep. 1558 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.C.R. No. 27

The purpose of this measure is to request Hawaii's congressional delegation to petition the United States Department of Agriculture to address the lack of parity between Hawaii and other states and territories pertaining to the export of agricultural goods.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii is the only state in the nation regulated similarly to the United States territories. Under title 7 Code of Federal Regulations part 318, the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States Department of Agriculture may prohibit or restrict the movement in interstate commerce of any plant or plant product from Hawaii and the territories, unless specifically allowed, to the continental United States to prevent the introduction of plant pests on the continent. Unfortunately, the allowable list is limited and Hawaii waits in the same queue as foreign countries seeking to export products into the United States, and shipments of fruits and vegetables require quarantine treatment, inspection, and authorization by the United States Department of Agriculture, severely limiting the State's exports.

Your Committee further finds that a petition must be submitted to the United States Department of Agriculture in order for the State to add more agricultural commodities to the allowable list. This measure requests that Hawaii's congressional delegation petition the United States Department of Agriculture to address the lack of parity between Hawaii and other states and territories pertaining to the export of agricultural goods.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 27 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Lowen, Ward).

SCRep. 1559 Culture & Arts on H.R. No. 158

The purpose of this measure is to urge the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, in consultation with other agencies, to establish an annual festival in Hawaii that celebrates the culture and arts of the Pacific region.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the 13th Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture (FestPAC), hosted by Hawaii for the first time in its fifty-two-year history in June 2024, attracted more than five hundred thousand visitors and over two thousand two hundred delegates from more than twenty-five island nations. Your Committee believes that events like FestPAC promote trans-Pacific cooperation and help preserve the strong cultural heritages of Micronesia, Melanesia, and Polynesia and providing annual dedicated opportunities to learn about and experience the varied cultures and traditions that make up the Pacific region will foster the bonds among these peoples and allow for further understanding, cooperation, and appreciation.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 158, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 158, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 1560 Culture & Arts on H.C.R. No. 163

The purpose of this measure is to urge the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, in consultation with other agencies, to establish an annual festival in Hawaii that celebrates the culture and arts of the Pacific region.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the 13th Festival of Pacific Arts and Culture (FestPAC), hosted by Hawaii for the first time in its fifty-two-year history in June 2024, attracted more than five hundred thousand visitors and over two thousand two hundred delegates from more than twenty-five island nations. Your Committee believes that events like FestPAC promote trans-Pacific cooperation and help preserve the strong cultural heritages of Micronesia, Melanesia, and Polynesia and providing annual dedicated opportunities to learn about and experience the varied cultures and traditions that make up the Pacific region will foster the bonds among these peoples and allow for further understanding, cooperation, and appreciation.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 163, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 163, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 1561 Housing on H.R. No. 60

The purpose of this measure is to request the State Building Code Council to adopt, amend, or update the State Building Code to authorize point access block construction for residential buildings up to six stories in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Grassroot Institute of Hawaii and Housing Hawai'i's Future. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the American Institute of Architects, Hawaii State Council.

Your Committee finds that existing building code requirements effectively mandate a double-loaded corridor building, where two stairways access a corridor in the middle of the building with units on each side. This can result in the dwelling units in these buildings having daylight come from only one single exterior wall, with little to no cross ventilation. Your Committee further finds that buildings with point access blocks are compact single stair buildings with dwellings that are centered around a stairway and elevator core and have a single point of access. Dwelling units in buildings with point access blocks tend to be very flexible, with a higher proportion of units ranging from two- to four-bedrooms. Your Committee believes that the State would benefit from allowing the residential buildings to be constructed to allow for point access blocks, which could alleviate the State's severe lack of housing by reducing construction costs.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 60 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Cochran, Kila, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 1562 Housing on H.C.R. No. 66

The purpose of this measure is to request the State Building Code Council to adopt, amend, or update the State Building Code to authorize point access block construction for residential buildings up to six stories in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Grassroot Institute of Hawaii and Housing Hawai'i's Future. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the American Institute of Architects, Hawaii State Council.

Your Committee finds that existing building code requirements effectively mandate a double-loaded corridor building, where two stairways access a corridor in the middle of the building with units on each side. This can result in the dwelling units in these buildings having daylight come from only one single exterior wall, with little to no cross ventilation. Your Committee further finds that buildings with point access blocks are compact single stair buildings with dwellings that are centered around a stairway and elevator core and have a single point of access. Dwelling units in buildings with point access blocks tend to be very flexible, with a higher proportion of units ranging from two- to four-bedrooms. Your Committee believes that the State would benefit from allowing the residential buildings to be constructed to allow for point access blocks, which could alleviate the State's severe lack of housing by reducing construction costs.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 66 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Cochran, Kila, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 1563 Housing on H.C.R. No. 67

The purpose of this measure is to request the Governor, State Building Code Council, building departments of each county, mayors of each county, and chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives standing committees on housing to develop a comprehensive strategy for adopting updated building codes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Grassroot Institute of Hawaii. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from American Institute of Architects of Architects, Hawaii State Council, Legislative Advocacy Committee.

Your Committee finds that clear, well-regulated building codes are essential for ensuring public safety, resilience against natural disasters, and the long-term stability of Hawaii's infrastructure. Recent changes to the application of building codes, including the suspension of the State Building Code Council and the adoption of unamended national standards, have created uncertainty for contractors and developers. The measure will address the lack of clarity in regulatory requirements risks delaying construction projects and compromising safety standards.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its title to make technical amendments;
- (2) Urging the comprehensive strategy to include requests to reinstate and adequately fund the State Building Code Council so it can resume its mandate effectively;
- (3) Updating the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 67, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 67, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Cochran, Kila, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 1564 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.R. No. 126

The purpose of this measure is to urge the counties, State, and other relevant agencies to:

- (1) Provide increased and sustained funding to the Invasive Species Committees within the Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa; and
- (2) Provide sustained funding to the ISCs to strengthen their ability to combat the growing threat of invasive species and protect Hawaii's ecosystems and economy; and
- (3) Direct funding toward expanding invasive species control programs to target priority species, increasing research and monitoring efforts to detect new invasions early, enhancing public outreach and education to raise awareness about preventing the spread of invasive species, supporting interagency and community collaboration to improve response coordination and resource-sharing, and providing treatment options for residents and farmers impacted by these species, including grants for control efforts and the purchase of treatment supplies.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; Hawai'i Invasive Species Council; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Board of Water Supply; O'ahu Invasive Species Committee; Hawai'i Ant Lab; Kaua'i Invasive Species Committee; Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Control Species; and one individual.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Expanding the list of Invasive Species Committees (ISCs) to include Hawai'i Ant Lab; and
- (2) Amending the title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee finds that invasive species pose one of the greatest threats to Hawaii's native flora and fauna, as well as severely affect Hawaii's agricultural sector and Hawaii's tourism industry, resulting in millions of dollars lost in revenue and increased costs for property owners, businesses, and agencies tasked with managing and mitigating these threats.

Your Committee further finds that the Invasive Species Committees (ISCs) have played a critical role in managing and preventing the spread of invasive species throughout the State and serve as an important gap filler by tailoring their target pest lists to be area-specific, thereby maximizing the effectiveness of limited resources. Despite this, the ISCs rely on limited funding to prevent the spread of invasive species, which could result in millions of dollars in damages and lost revenue for the State and residents, as well as long-term ecological and economic damage, if left unchecked.

Your Committee further finds that investing in invasive species management will protect Hawaii's environment and economy and enhance the State's resilience to climate change. This measure urges the counties, State, and other relevant agencies to provide sustained funding to the Invasive Species Committees within the Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and the ISCs to strengthen their ability to combat the growing threat of invasive species and protect Hawaii's ecosystems and economy, and to direct funding toward expanding invasive species control programs to target priority species.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 126, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 126, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Lowen, Ward).

SCRep. 1565 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.C.R. No. 130

The purpose of this measure is to urge the counties, State, and other relevant agencies to:

- (1) Provide increased and sustained funding to the Invasive Species Committees within the Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa; and
- (2) Provide sustained funding to the ISCs to strengthen their ability to combat the growing threat of invasive species and protect Hawaii's ecosystems and economy; and
- (3) Direct funding toward expanding invasive species control programs to target priority species, increasing research and monitoring efforts to detect new invasions early, enhancing public outreach and education to raise awareness about preventing the spread of invasive species, supporting interagency and community collaboration to improve response coordination and resource-sharing, and providing treatment options for residents and farmers impacted by these species, including grants for control efforts and the purchase of treatment supplies.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; Hawai'i Invasive Species Council; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Board of Water Supply; O'ahu Invasive Species Committee; Hawai'i Ant Lab; Kaua'i Invasive Species Committee; Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Control Species; and one individual. Your Committee received comments from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Expanding the list of Invasive Species Committees (ISCs) to include Hawai'i Ant Lab; and
- (2) Amending the title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee finds that invasive species pose one of the greatest threats to Hawaii's native flora and fauna, as well as severely affect Hawaii's agricultural sector and Hawaii's tourism industry, resulting in millions of dollars lost in revenue and increased costs for property owners, businesses, and agencies tasked with managing and mitigating these threats.

Your Committee further finds that the Invasive Species Committees (ISCs) have played a critical role in managing and preventing the spread of invasive species throughout the State and serve as an important gap filler by tailoring their target pest lists to be area-specific, thereby maximizing the effectiveness of limited resources. Despite this, the ISCs rely on limited funding to prevent the spread of invasive species, which could result in millions of dollars in damages and lost revenue for the State and residents, as well as long-term ecological and economic damage, if left unchecked.

Your Committee further finds that investing in invasive species management will protect Hawaii's environment and economy and enhance the State's resilience to climate change. This measure urges the counties, State, and other relevant agencies to provide sustained funding to the Invasive Species Committees within the Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and the ISCs to strengthen their ability to combat the growing threat of invasive species and protect Hawaii's ecosystems and economy, and to direct funding toward expanding invasive species control programs to target priority species.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 130, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 130, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Lowen, Ward).

SCRep. 1566 Higher Education on H.R. No. 121

The purpose of this measure is to request the University of Hawaii to to prioritize a capital improvement project to construct "Halau o Kawaihuelani".

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Kawaihuelani Center and its sister center, the Kamakakūokalani Center, offer a wide range of learning opportunities for the Hawaiian language and culture. As fluency of the Hawaiian language grows, more interest from students can lead to increased activity, including additional faculty, at the Kawaihuelani Center and Kamakakūokalani Center. However, the present locations of the the Kawaihuelani Center and Kamakakūokalani Center at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, which is nearly one-half mile from each other, and limited capacity of each Center to house staff and faculty hinders program collaboration and curricular innovation. Your Committee believes that the construction of the Halau o Kawaihuelani will be able to accommodate both programs and a multitude of services and facilities that will promote the Hawaiian language and culture.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 121, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 121, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Sayama).

SCRep. 1567 Higher Education on H.C.R. No. 125

The purpose of this measure is to request the University of Hawaii to to prioritize a capital improvement project to construct "Halau o Kawaihuelani".

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Kawaihuelani Center and its sister center, the Kamakakūokalani Center, offer a wide range of learning opportunities for the Hawaiian language and culture. As fluency of the Hawaiian language grows, more interest from students can lead to increased activity, including additional faculty, at the Kawaihuelani Center and Kamakakūokalani Center. However, the present locations of the the Kawaihuelani Center and Kamakakūokalani Center at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, which is nearly one-half mile from each other, and limited capacity of each Center to house staff and faculty hinders program collaboration and curricular innovation. Your Committee believes that the construction of the Halau o Kawaihuelani will be able to accommodate both programs and a multitude of services and facilities that will promote the Hawaiian language and culture.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 125, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 125, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Sayama).

SCRep. 1568 Higher Education on H.R. No. 30

The purpose of this measure to request the University of Hawaii to explore the feasibility of establishing an Alzheimer's Disease Research Center and identify the requirements for receiving federal funding from the National Institute on Aging for Alzheimer's disease research.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging and Alzheimer's Association Hawaii Chapter. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the John A. Burns School of Medicine of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

Your Committee finds that Alzheimer's disease is a significant public health issue affecting millions of Americans, including many residents of the State. Your Committee further finds that the National Institute on Aging-designated Alzheimer's Disease Research Centers are a national resource for research on the nature of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and the development of more effective approaches to prevention, diagnosis, care, and therapy. Your Committee believes that exploring the feasibility of establishing of an Alzheimer's Disease Research Center in Hawaii is warranted, as the establishment of a Center would advance scientific research, improve diagnosis and treatment, and provide better care for those suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 30 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Sayama).

SCRep. 1569 Higher Education on H.C.R. No. 31

The purpose of this measure to request the University of Hawaii to explore the feasibility of establishing an Alzheimer's Disease Research Center and identify the requirements for receiving federal funding from the National Institute on Aging for Alzheimer's disease research.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging and Alzheimer's Association Hawaii Chapter. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the John A. Burns School of Medicine of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

Your Committee finds that Alzheimer's disease is a significant public health issue affecting millions of Americans, including many residents of the State. Your Committee further finds that the National Institute on Aging-designated Alzheimer's Disease Research Centers are a national resource for research on the nature of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and the development of more effective approaches to prevention, diagnosis, care, and therapy. Your Committee believes that exploring the feasibility of establishing of an Alzheimer's Disease Research Center in Hawaii is warranted, as the establishment of a Center would advance scientific research, improve diagnosis and treatment, and provide better care for those suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 31 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Sayama).

SCRep. 1570 Higher Education on H.R. No. 92

The purpose of this measure is to encourage the University of Hawaii to evaluate and expand its current mental health services for students.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that the mental health and well-being of students is essential to academic success and the overall campus climate. Your Committee further finds that the University of Hawaii plays a critical role in promoting an environment where students can access comprehensive mental health support. Recent assessments and feedback indicate an increased need for mental health services for students. Your Committee believes that expanding the availability of mental health services offered by the University of Hawaii, including counseling, crisis intervention, and preventive care, will contribute to improved academic performance, enhanced student retention, and a more supportive educational environment.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 92 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Health.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Sayama).

SCRep. 1571 Higher Education on H.C.R. No. 96

The purpose of this measure is to encourage the University of Hawaii to evaluate and expand its current mental health services for students.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that the mental health and well-being of students is essential to academic success and the overall campus climate. Your Committee further finds that the University of Hawaii plays a critical role in promoting an environment where students can access comprehensive mental health support. Recent assessments and feedback indicate an increased need for mental health services for students. Your Committee believes that expanding the availability of mental health services offered by the University of Hawaii, including counseling, crisis intervention, and preventive care, will contribute to improved academic performance, enhanced student retention, and a more supportive educational environment.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 96 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Health.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Sayama).

SCRep. 1572 Higher Education on H.R. No. 93

The purpose of this measure is to urge the University of Hawaii to implement a homeless student stability and housing resource program to address the issue of housing instability.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that post-secondary students should be able to access resources that help them meet their basic needs, including stable housing, food, and healthcare services. Your Committee further finds that a poll conducted by The Hope Center for College, Community, and Justice for the University of Hawaii Basic Needs Committee in Fall 2020 found that forty-four percent of students experienced housing insecurity and fourteen percent experienced homelessness. Your Committee believes that the implementation of a homeless student stability and housing resource program for post-secondary students will create a more just and accessible system of higher education in the State.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 93 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Housing.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Sayama).

SCRep. 1573 Higher Education on H.C.R. No. 97

The purpose of this measure is to urge the University of Hawaii to implement a homeless student stability and housing resource program to address the issue of housing instability.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that post-secondary students should be able to access resources that help them meet their basic needs, including stable housing, food, and healthcare services. Your Committee further finds that a poll conducted by The Hope Center for College, Community, and Justice for the University of Hawaii Basic Needs Committee in Fall 2020 found that forty-four percent of students experienced housing insecurity and fourteen percent experienced homelessness. Your Committee believes that the implementation of a homeless student stability and housing resource program for post-secondary students will create a more just and accessible system of higher education in the State.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 97 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Housing.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Sayama).

SCRep. 1574 Higher Education on H.R. No. 188

The purpose of this measure is to request the University of Hawaii System to establish a Veterinary Medicine Expansion Working Group to explore the feasibility of developing a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program at Windward Community College.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaiian Humane Society; Animal Interfaith Alliance in Britain; Kaua'i Humane Society; and nine individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that the State faces a critical shortage of veterinarians, especially in rural areas and for large animal and agricultural veterinary services. The lack of a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program forces aspiring veterinarians to seek education outside of Hawaii, which can increase financial burdens and reduce the likelihood that a newly licensed veterinarian will return to the State to practice.

Your Committee further finds that Windward Community College's Veterinary Technology program has a strong foundation in veterinary education. Your Committee believes that establishing a working group to explore the feasibility of expanding Windward Community College's existing Veterinary Technology program to include a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine pathway will help address the State's veterinary workforce shortages.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Including a representative of the University of Hawaii at Hilo's Veterinarian Education Program as a member of the Veterinary Medicine Expansion Working Group;
- (2) Directing a certified copy of this measure to the Chancellor of the University of Hawaii at Hilo; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 188, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 188, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Sayama).

SCRep. 1575 Higher Education on H.C.R. No. 195

The purpose of this measure is to request the University of Hawaii System to establish a Veterinary Medicine Expansion Working Group to explore the feasibility of developing a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program at Windward Community College.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaiian Humane Society; Animal Interfaith Alliance in Britain; Kaua'i Humane Society; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that the State faces a critical shortage of veterinarians, especially in rural areas and for large animal and agricultural veterinary services. The lack of a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program forces aspiring veterinarians to seek education outside of Hawaii, which can increase financial burdens and reduce the likelihood that a newly licensed veterinarian will return to the State to practice.

Your Committee further finds that Windward Community College's Veterinary Technology program has a strong foundation in veterinary education. Your Committee believes that establishing a working group to explore the feasibility of expanding Windward Community College's existing Veterinary Technology program to include a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine pathway will help address the State's veterinary workforce shortages.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Including a representative of the University of Hawaii at Hilo's Veterinarian Education Program as a member of the Veterinary Medicine Expansion Working Group;
- (2) Directing a certified copy of this measure to the Chancellor of the University of Hawaii at Hilo; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 195, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 195, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Sayama).

SCRep. 1576 Higher Education on H.R. No. 189

The purpose of this measure is to request the University of Hawaii Community Colleges to develop a comprehensive list of Bachelor's degree programs that directly align with job opportunities and industry needs within their respective region of service.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System and University of Hawaii Professional Assembly.

Your Committee finds that the Hawaii's economic vitality depends on a skilled workforce that meets the needs of key regional industries. Your Committee further finds that each of the University of Hawaii Community Colleges play a vital role in providing accessible, regionally-relevant higher education that supports local economic development. Your Committee believes that the University of Hawaii Community Colleges can best support the economic needs within their respective region of service by developing a comprehensive list of Bachelor's degree programs that directly align with job opportunities and industry needs within their respective region of service.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the University of Hawaii Community Colleges, including the University of Hawaii Maui College, are requested to develop a comprehensive list of Bachelor's degree programs that directly align with job opportunities and industry needs within their respective region of service;
- (2) Directing a certified copy of this measure to the Chancellor of the University of Hawaii Maui College;
- (3) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 189, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Labor in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 189, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Sayama).

SCRep. 1577 Higher Education on H.C.R. No. 196

The purpose of this measure is to request the University of Hawaii Community Colleges to develop a comprehensive list of Bachelor's degree programs that directly align with job opportunities and industry needs within their respective region of service.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System and University of Hawaii Professional Assembly.

Your Committee finds that the Hawaii's economic vitality depends on a skilled workforce that meets the needs of key regional industries. Your Committee further finds that each of the University of Hawaii Community Colleges play a vital role in providing accessible, regionally-relevant higher education that supports local economic development. Your Committee believes that the University of Hawaii Community Colleges can best support the economic needs within their respective region of service by developing a comprehensive list of Bachelor's degree programs that directly align with job opportunities and industry needs within their respective region of service.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the University of Hawaii Community Colleges, including the University of Hawaii Maui College, are requested to develop a comprehensive list of Bachelor's degree programs that directly align with job opportunities and industry needs within their respective region of service;
- (2) Directing a certified copy of this measure to the Chancellor of the University of Hawaii Maui College;
- (3) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 196, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Labor in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 196, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Sayama).

SCRep. 1578 Higher Education on H.R. No. 120

The purpose of this measure is to encourage the Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language of the University of Hawaii at Manoa, through its I Hoa na Moolelo Project, to further provide learning resources and opportunities that promote Hawaiian language and culture.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Education supports Hawaiian language fluency through Kula Kaiapuni Hawaiian language immersion schools across Hawaii. Your Committee further finds that Kaiapuni students and their families encounter limited access to activities, materials, and learning opportunities that they can engage in together to promote use of 'Olelo Hawaii in their homes.

Your Committee notes that the Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language of the University of Hawaii at Manoa strives to revitalize Hawaiian language and culture through quality Hawaiian education by creating and providing materials, curricula, and resources that promote the use of the Hawaiian language. As part of its outreach, the Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language created and implemented the I Hoa na Moolelo Project in 2021 to publish a quarterly children's magazine written in the Hawaiian language, for the enjoyment of Kaiapuni and charter school students in grades 2-6 on Oahu. Your Committee recognizes the success of the I Hoa na Moolelo Project and believes that the Project should be extended to provide all Kaiapuni students and families with Hawaiian language and literacy resources and create opportunities for 'Olelo Hawaii to flourish in homes and communities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that a certified copy of this measure is to be transmitted to the Director of the Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language of the University of Hawaii at Manoa; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 120, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 120, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Sayama).

SCRep. 1579 Higher Education on H.C.R. No. 124

The purpose of this measure is to encourage the Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language of the University of Hawaii at Manoa, through its I Hoa na Moolelo Project, to further provide learning resources and opportunities that promote Hawaiian language and culture.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Education supports Hawaiian language fluency through Kula Kaiapuni Hawaiian language immersion schools across Hawaii. Your Committee further finds that Kaiapuni students and their families encounter limited access to activities, materials, and learning opportunities that they can engage in together to promote use of 'Olelo Hawaii in their homes.

Your Committee notes that the Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language of the University of Hawaii at Manoa strives to revitalize Hawaiian language and culture through quality Hawaiian education by creating and providing materials, curricula, and resources that promote the use of the Hawaiian language. As part of its outreach, the Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language created and implemented the I Hoa na Moolelo Project in 2021 to publish a quarterly children's magazine written in the Hawaiian language, for the enjoyment of Kaiapuni and charter school students in grades 2-6 on Oahu. Your Committee recognizes the success of the I Hoa na Moolelo Project and believes that the Project should be extended to provide all Kaiapuni students and families with Hawaiian language and literacy resources and create opportunities for 'Olelo Hawaii to flourish in homes and communities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that a certified copy of this measure is to be transmitted to the Director of the Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language of the University of Hawaii at Manoa; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 124, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 124, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Sayama).

SCRep. 1580 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.R. No. 63

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Transportation to facilitate and accelerate the adoption of sustainable aviation fuels to decarbonize Hawai'i's transportation sector and support the State's climate goals.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Par Hawaii; Pono Pacific; Hawai'i Renewable Fuels Coalition; Alaska Airlines; Hawaiian Airlines; Coalition Earth; Island Energy Services; Life of the Land; Japan Airlines; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Energy Justice Network; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that sustainable aviation fuels offer a viable, more environmentally-friendly alternative to traditional aviation fuels and can help the State meet its climate goals. This measure ensures collaboration among various state departments and private entities in efforts to accelerate the adoption of sustainable aviation fuels.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the State's greenhouse gas emissions goals; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 63, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Transportation in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 63, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1581 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.C.R. No. 70

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Transportation to facilitate and accelerate the adoption of sustainable aviation fuels to decarbonize Hawai'i's transportation sector and support the State's climate goals.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Par Hawaii; Pono Pacific; Hawai'i Renewable Fuels Coalition; Alaska Airlines; Hawaiian Airlines; Coalition Earth; Island Energy Services; Life of the Land; Japan Airlines; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Energy Justice Network; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that sustainable aviation fuels offer a viable, more environmentally-friendly alternative to traditional aviation fuels and can help the State meet its climate goals. This measure ensures collaboration among various state departments and private entities in efforts to accelerate the adoption of sustainable aviation fuels.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the State's greenhouse gas emissions goals; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 70, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Transportation in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 70, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1582 Tourism on H.R. No. 98

The purpose of this measure is to strongly urge the Real Estate Commission to allow for the administration of the real estate salesperson's examination in the Japanese language for purposes of issuing a full real estate salesperson's license, limited to the sale of timeshare products in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the American Resort Development Association - Hawaii and Hilton Grand Vacations. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Real Estate Commission and Hawaii First Realty.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Tourism that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 98 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Matsumoto).

SCRep. 1583 Tourism on H.C.R. No. 102

The purpose of this measure is to strongly urge the Real Estate Commission to allow for the administration of the real estate salesperson's examination in the Japanese language for purposes of issuing a full real estate salesperson's license, limited to the sale of timeshare products in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the American Resort Development Association - Hawaii and Hilton Grand Vacations. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Real Estate Commission and Hawaii First Realty.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Tourism that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 102 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Matsumoto).

SCRep. 1584 Tourism on H.R. No. 136

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Hawaii Tourism Authority and Department of Transportation to expand the Kāhea Airport Greetings Program to display keiki art in all neighbor island airports.

Your committee received comments on this measure from Hawaii Tourism Authority.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Tourism that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 136 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Transportation.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Matsumoto).

SCRep. 1585 Tourism on H.C.R. No. 142

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Hawaii Tourism Authority and Department of Transportation to expand the Kāhea Airport Greetings Program to display keiki art in all neighbor island airports.

Your committee received comments on this measure from Hawaii Tourism Authority.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Tourism that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 142 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Transportation.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Matsumoto).

SCRep. 1586 Tourism on H.R. No. 137

The purpose of this measure is to strongly urge the Hawaii Tourism Authority to require all transient accommodations to require guests to take the Pono Pledge upon check-in.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Fair Wind Cruises. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Strongly urging the Hawaii Tourism Authority to encourage, rather than require, all transient accommodations to require guests to take the Pono Pledge upon check-in; and
- (2) Changing the title of the measure accordingly.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Tourism that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 137, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 137, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Matsumoto).

SCRep. 1587 Tourism on H.C.R. No. 143

The purpose of this measure is to strongly urge the Hawaii Tourism Authority to require all transient accommodations to require guests to take the Pono Pledge upon check-in.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Fair Wind Cruises. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Strongly urging the Hawaii Tourism Authority to encourage, rather than require, all transient accommodations to require guests to take the Pono Pledge upon check-in; and
- (2) Changing the title of the measure accordingly.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Tourism that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 143, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 143, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Matsumoto).

SCRep. 1588 Public Safety on H.C.R. No. 23

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, in planning and designing the new Oahu Community Correctional Center in Halawa, to include circuit and district court facilities and establish a release procedure under which detainees or inmates, upon release, are transported to a site other than residential communities or public spaces.

The Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation provided testimony in support of the intent of the resolution. One individual provided testimony in support of this resolution.

The committee recommends changing the language from "facilities" to "facility", in the title and the body of the resolution, in order to address the comments received from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 23, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 23, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Hashem, Lamosao, Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 1589 Public Safety on H.C.R. No. 37

The purpose of this measure is to request the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to collaborate with relevant agencies to develop initiatives and outreach programs to inform kupuna about emergency preparedness.

The Department of Human Concerns of the County of Maui, the Hawaii Council of Community Associations, the Hawaii Family Caregiver Coalition, AARP Hawaii, the Alzheimer's Association, Be Ready Manoa, and the Pearl City Neighborhood Board No. 21 provided testimony in support of this resolution. Four individuals provided testimony in support of this resolution. The Kaneohe/Kahaluu Community Emergency Response Team provided comments.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 37 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Hashem, Lamosao, Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 1590 Public Safety on H.C.R. No. 63

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to make available to correctional facility staff members throughout the state clinical counseling services that are separate and distinct from the existing mental health resources available to inmates.

Only one individual provided written testimony in support of this resolution.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 63 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Hashem, Lamosao, Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 1591 Public Safety on H.R. No. 199

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Land and Natural Resources to establish a formal public process for the lease renewal negotiations, including public hearings, community consultations, and stakeholder engagement; to conduct a comprehensive economic analysis of all military-leased lands that assesses the lost economic opportunities from the unavailability of these lands, the comprehensive costs for cleanup of these lands, the costs of restoration and development of these lands to productive economic use, the lost income to the State had these lands been leased at fair market rents, instead of the \$1 leases, and the lost tax dollars to the State had these lands been utilized for productive purposes; and to submit a report detailing the findings of the economic analysis as well as its plans for future lease negotiations to the Legislature prior to the 2026 Regular Session.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii, the Chamber of Sustainable Commerce, Greenpeace Hawaii, Ho'opae Pono Peace Project, Ka Lahui Hawaii, the ACLU of Hawaii, The Queen's Court, Veterans for Peace, The Sierra Club, and twenty-five individuals. Your Committee received comments from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that the military's history of violations and neglect of environmental and cultural aspects of the land it operates on, the Department's lack of oversight of its lessees, and the community's overwhelming support for this measure are compelling. As such, your Committee believes that a substantive economic analysis is necessary to improve transparency and oversight for both the department and the public regarding state land leases.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 199 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Hashem, Lamosao, Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 1592 Public Safety on H.C.R. No. 207

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Land and Natural Resources to establish a formal public process for the lease renewal negotiations, including public hearings, community consultations, and stakeholder engagement; to conduct a comprehensive economic analysis of all military-leased lands that assesses the lost economic opportunities from the unavailability of these lands, the comprehensive costs for cleanup of these lands, the costs of restoration and development of these lands to productive economic use, the lost income to the State had these lands been leased at fair market rents, instead of the \$1 leases, and the lost tax dollars to the State had these lands been utilized for productive purposes; and to submit a report detailing the findings of the economic analysis as well as its plans for future lease negotiations to the Legislature prior to the 2026 Regular Session.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii, the Chamber of Sustainable Commerce, Greenpeace Hawaii, Ho'opae Pono Peace Project, Ka Lahui Hawaii, the ACLU of Hawaii, The Queen's Court, Veterans for Peace, The Sierra Club, and twenty-five individuals. Your Committee received comments from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that the military's history of violations and neglect of environmental and cultural aspects of the land it operates on, the Department's lack of oversight of its lessees, and the community's overwhelming support for this measure are compelling. As such, your Committee believes that a substantive economic analysis is necessary to improve transparency and oversight for both the department and the public regarding state land leases.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 207 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Hashem, Lamosao, Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 1593 Public Safety on H.R. No. 163

The purpose of this measure is to request that the Hawaii state fire code clearly define states of wildfire suppression and related efforts.

Hawaiian Electric and five individuals provided testimony in support of this resolution.

Your Committee has amended this measure by clarifying that this resolution is requesting the Office of the State Fire Marshal and the State Fire Council to work together to clearly define stages of wildfire suppression and related efforts.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 163, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 163, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Hashem, Lamosao, Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 1594 Public Safety on H.C.R. No. 168

The purpose of this measure is to request that the Hawaii state fire code clearly define states of wildfire suppression and related efforts.

Hawaiian Electric and five individuals provided testimony in support of this resolution.

Your Committee has amended this measure by clarifying that this resolution is requesting the Office of the State Fire Marshal and the State Fire Council to work together to clearly define stages of wildfire suppression and related efforts.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 168, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 168, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Hashem, Lamosao, Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 1595 Public Safety on H.R. No. 57

The purpose of this measure is to honor, remind and keep visible America's prisoner of war and missing in action military personnel by requesting the Sheriff Division of the Department of Law Enforcement to fly the League's flag year-round at the State Capitol.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 57 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Hashem, Lamosao, Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 1596 Public Safety on H.C.R. No. 62

The purpose of this measure is to honor, remind and keep visible America's prisoner of war and missing in action military personnel by requesting the Sheriff Division of the Department of Law Enforcement to fly the League's flag year-round at the State Capitol.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that it is important for the legislature to honor prisoners of war, and, there are many different groups of citizens that the legislature must honor. Your Committee believes that to be fair and equitable, the legislature cannot choose one party to uphold above all others, through a year-round flag raising.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by replacing the request to fly the POW-MIA flag year-round with the request to fly the flag on the same six national holidays as dictated in U.S. Public Law 105-85.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 62, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 62, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Hashem, Lamosao, Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 1597 Public Safety on H.R. No. 149

The purpose of this measure is to ensure taxpayer dollars are being used and managed responsibly by the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and the Department of Accounting and General Services with regards to the planning, design, financing, construction, and maintenance of a new jail to replace the Oahu Community Correctional Center.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the ACLU of Hawaii, Kauai Women's Caucus, and twenty-five individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Corrections' plans for expansion and construction for the new Oahu Community Correctional Center have an estimated cost of \$1,000,000,000, making it the single largest public works project in state history. Your Committee also notes that this does not include the recurring costs of operation, and that the department has already expended \$25,000,000 on planning consultants alone, without providing a full accounting of how past funding relating to the proposed project has been spent.

Your Committee finds that increased transparency with regards to the proposed construction of a new Oahu Community Correctional Center is necessary to improve public trust, eliminate and prevent fraud, examine the realities of the return on taxpayers' investment, and ultimately ensure responsible use of public funds.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Replacing "forensic" with "management, performance, and financial" with regards to the descriptors of audit type, per the Office of the Auditor's comments.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 149, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 149, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Souza). Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Hashem, Lamosao, Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 1598 Public Safety on H.C.R. No. 154

The purpose of this measure is to ensure taxpayer dollars are being used and managed responsibly by the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and the Department of Accounting and General Services with regards to the planning, design, financing, construction, and maintenance of a new jail to replace the Oahu Community Correctional Center.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the ACLU of Hawaii, Kauai Women's Caucus, and twenty-five individuals. Your Committee received comments from the Office of the Auditor.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Corrections' plans for expansion and construction for the new Oahu Community Correctional Center have an estimated cost of \$1,000,000,000, making it the single largest public works project in state history. Your Committee also notes that this does not include the recurring costs of operation, and that the department has already expended \$25,000,000 on planning consultants alone, without providing a full accounting of how past funding relating to the proposed project has been spent.

Your Committee finds that increased transparency with regards to the proposed construction of a new Oahu Community Correctional Center is necessary to improve public trust, eliminate and prevent fraud, examine the realities of the return on taxpayers' investment, and ultimately ensure responsible use of public funds.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Replacing "forensic" with "performance, management, and financial" with regards to the descriptors of audit type, per the Office of the Auditor's comments.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 154, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 154, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Souza). Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Hashem, Lamosao, Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 1599 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.R. No. 182

The purpose of this measure is to declare a public health emergency relating to climate change and request statewide coordination to identify, plan for, and create cross-sector solutions to strengthen Hawaii's public health response to the climate crisis.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Climate Change and Health Working Group; Greenpeace Hawaii; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Coalition Earth; 350Hawaii.org; and six individuals.

Your Committee finds that the climate crisis is one of the greatest threats to human health worldwide. Your Committee further finds that climate change has led to an increase in heat-related illnesses, respiratory health issues associated with the increase in wildfires, and other serious health and mental health related issues. This measure acknowledges the severity of the impact of the climate crisis on public health and initiates a collaborative statewide approach to support the public health response to climate change.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 182 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Health.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1600 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.C.R. No. 188

The purpose of this measure is to declare a public health emergency relating to climate change and request statewide coordination to identify, plan for, and create cross-sector solutions to strengthen Hawaii's public health response to the climate crisis.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Climate Change and Health Working Group; Greenpeace Hawaii; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Coalition Earth; 350Hawaii.org; and six individuals.

Your Committee finds that the climate crisis is one of the greatest threats to human health worldwide. Your Committee further finds that climate change has led to an increase in heat-related illnesses, respiratory health issues associated with the increase in wildfires, and other serious health and mental health related issues. This measure acknowledges the severity of the impact of the climate crisis on public health and initiates a collaborative statewide approach to support the public health response to climate change.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 188 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Health.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1601 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.R. No. 102

The purpose of this measure is to request the Hawaii State Energy Office to conduct a study evaluating the feasibility of establishing a green bonds program in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Coalition Earth and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i State Energy Office.

Your Committee finds that addressing climate change and advancing renewable energy initiatives require innovative financing mechanisms to support sustainable infrastructure and conservation efforts. Green bonds offer a viable funding solution, as they are specifically designed to finance projects that promote clean energy, climate resilience, and environmental sustainability. This measure helps the State evaluate the feasibility of establishing a green bonds program in Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 102 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1602 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.C.R. No. 106

The purpose of this measure is to request the Hawaii State Energy Office to conduct a study evaluating the feasibility of establishing a green bonds program in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Coalition Earth and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i State Energy Office.

Your Committee finds that addressing climate change and advancing renewable energy initiatives require innovative financing mechanisms to support sustainable infrastructure and conservation efforts. Green bonds offer a viable funding solution, as they are specifically designed to finance projects that promote clean energy, climate resilience, and environmental sustainability. This measure helps the State evaluate the feasibility of establishing a green bonds program in Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 106 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1603 Human Services & Homelessness on H.R. No. 88

The purpose of this measure is to request the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness and the City and County of Honolulu to establish a two-year Homelessness Sanctuary Pilot Program to provide a safe location on public land for homeless individuals and families to reside and access services.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from seven individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions.

Your Committee finds that homelessness remains a critical issue across the State, particularly on Oahu, where a large number of unsheltered individuals face challenges related to mental health and substance abuse. Many homeless individuals are frequently cited or arrested for violations such as trespassing or illegal camping, highlighting the urgent need for stable, safe locations where they can live with dignity while accessing essential services. This measure requests the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness and the City and County of Honolulu to establish a two-year Homelessness Sanctuary Pilot Program to provide designated sanctuary locations with access to social services, mental health care, and substance abuse treatment for homeless individuals and families.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its title to make technical amendments; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 88, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 88, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Takenouchi).

SCRep. 1604 Human Services & Homelessness on H.C.R. No. 92

The purpose of this measure is to request the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness and the City and County of Honolulu to establish a two-year Homelessness Sanctuary Pilot Program to provide a safe location on public land for homeless individuals and families to reside and access services.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from seven individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions.

Your Committee finds that homelessness remains a critical issue across the State, particularly on Oahu, where a large number of unsheltered individuals face challenges related to mental health and substance abuse. Many homeless individuals are frequently cited or arrested for violations such as trespassing or illegal camping, highlighting the urgent need for stable, safe locations where they can live with dignity while accessing essential services. This measure requests the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness and the City and County of Honolulu to establish a two-year Homelessness Sanctuary Pilot Program to provide designated sanctuary locations with access to social services, mental health care, and substance abuse treatment for homeless individuals and families.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its title to make technical amendments; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 92, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 92, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Takenouchi).

SCRep. 1605 Human Services & Homelessness on H.R. No. 34

The purpose of this measure is to request:

- (1) The Health Data Advisory Council of the State Health Planning and Development Agency to confirm the number of uninsured children statewide and per county in 2025; and
- (2) The Med-QUEST Division of the Department of Human Services to estimate the state-related cost of increasing the coverage of children between the ages of six to eighteen from the current two years of continuous coverage following Medicaid eligibility to up to twelve years of continuous coverage by Med-QUEST.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that despite Hawaii's commitment to health care access, a significant number of children across the State remain uninsured. Expanding Med-QUEST coverage presents a cost-effective solution to reducing the number of uninsured children, ensuring continuous access to essential health care services. This measure addresses the issue by requesting the Health Data Advisory Council to confirm the number of uninsured children statewide and per county and directing the Department of Human Services' Med-QUEST Division to estimate costs and collaborate with the State Health Planning and Development Agency on policy changes to achieve universal health insurance coverage for children. By gathering accurate data and identifying feasible policy solutions, this measure supports the State's efforts to ensure that all children in Hawaii have access to comprehensive health care.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 34 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Takenouchi).

SCRep. 1606 Human Services & Homelessness on H.C.R. No. 39

The purpose of this measure is to request:

- (1) The Health Data Advisory Council of the State Health Planning and Development Agency to confirm the number of uninsured children statewide and per county in 2025; and
- (2) The Med-QUEST Division of the Department of Human Services to estimate the state-related cost of increasing the coverage of children between the ages of six to eighteen from the current two years of continuous coverage following Medicaid eligibility to up to twelve years of continuous coverage by Med-QUEST.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that despite Hawaii's commitment to health care access, a significant number of children across the State remain uninsured. Expanding Med-QUEST coverage presents a cost-effective solution to reducing the number of uninsured children, ensuring continuous access to essential health care services. This measure addresses the issue by requesting the Health Data Advisory Council to confirm the number of uninsured children statewide and per county and directing the Department of Human Services' Med-QUEST Division to estimate costs and collaborate with the State Health Planning and Development Agency on policy changes to achieve universal health insurance coverage for children. By gathering accurate data and identifying feasible policy solutions, this measure supports the State's efforts to ensure that all children in Hawaii have access to comprehensive health care.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 39 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Takenouchi).

SCRep. 1607 Human Services & Homelessness on H.R. No. 180

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Governor to determine a course of action for the State, should the federal government cut funding for Medicaid.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's Medicaid program, Med-QUEST, plays a vital role in providing health care coverage to a significant portion of the State's population, particularly low-income individuals, children, seniors, and individuals with disabilities. Proposed federal funding cuts to Medicaid would have severe consequences for the State, potentially leading to a loss of coverage for thousands of residents, increased financial strain on the State's budget, and reduced access to essential health services. This measure urges the Governor to determine a course of action to mitigate the impact of potential federal Medicaid cuts, ensuring that the State remains prepared to sustain critical health care services.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 180, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 180, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 6. Noes, 2 (Alcos, Garcia). Excused, 1 (Takenouchi).

SCRep. 1608 Human Services & Homelessness on H.C.R. No. 187

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Governor to determine a course of action for the State, should the federal government cut funding for Medicaid.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; and Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's Medicaid program, Med-QUEST, plays a vital role in providing health care coverage to a significant portion of the State's population, particularly low-income individuals, children, seniors, and individuals with disabilities. Proposed federal funding cuts to Medicaid would have severe consequences for the State, potentially leading to a loss of coverage for thousands of residents, increased financial strain on the State's budget, and reduced access to essential health services. This measure urges the Governor to determine a course of action to mitigate the impact of potential federal Medicaid cuts, ensuring that the State remains prepared to sustain critical health care services.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 187, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 187, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 2 (Alcos, Garcia). Excused, 1 (Takenouchi).

SCRep. 1609 Human Services & Homelessness on H.C.R. No. 180

The purpose of this measure is to request the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions, Department of Law Enforcement, homeless coordinators of each county, county law enforcement, and social services providers to work collaboratively and effectively to address homelessness in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions and one individual.

Your Committee finds that homelessness remains a critical issue in Hawaii that creates significant public health, safety, and environmental concerns. Homeless individuals with mental health or substance abuse issues often experience negative interactions with the public, and encampments near waterways, businesses, and public spaces contribute to pollution, safety risks, and urban blight. This measure seeks to address these challenges by requesting the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions, other governmental agencies, and social service providers to work collaboratively on effective homelessness solutions to enhance access for homeless individuals and families to supportive services, improve public safety, and advance initiatives to provide emergency, transitional, and permanent supportive housing.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its title to make technical amendments; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 180, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 180, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Takenouchi).

SCRep. 1610 Economic Development & Technology on H.C.R. No. 192

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to establish a Tourism and Gaming Working Group.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Aloha Hālawā District Partners; and Boyd Gaming. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; Nation of Hawai'i; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

Your Committee finds that gaming activities have the potential to spur economic growth and provide the State with a significant source of tax revenue. While your Committee recognizes the benefit of having a working group consider opportunities for economic growth related to tourism and gaming, your Committee finds that there is a more pressing need to identify economic development initiatives that can benefit Native Hawaiians, with gaming as one potential pathway for such economic development.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the name of the Working Group to the Native Hawaiian Economic Development Working Group;
- (2) Amending the membership of the Working Group;
- (3) Changing the requested tasks of the Working Group to identifying economic development opportunities that directly benefit Native Hawaiians and considering gaming as one pathway to spur economic opportunity for Native Hawaiians;
- (4) Removing the President and Chief Executive Officer of Boyd Gaming Corporation, Chief Executive Officer of DraftKings, Inc., and Chief Executive Officer of BetMGM from the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure;
- (5) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 192, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Tourism in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 192, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5; Ayes with Reservations (Templo, Matsumoto). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Todd).

SCRep. 1611 Economic Development & Technology on H.R. No. 114

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to sponsor a Michelin Guide for restaurants across the State.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii has a rich and diverse culinary industry that makes significant contributions to the State's economy. Your Committee further finds that the Michelin Guide does not currently send its inspectors to Hawaii, limiting the potential of local restaurants and depriving them of the economic benefits that come with the award of a Michelin star. This measure supports the introduction of a Michelin Guide for Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the counties to assist in the financing of the Michelin Guide;
- (2) Adding the Mayors of each county to the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 114, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 114, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Todd).

SCRep. 1612 Economic Development & Technology on H.C.R. No. 118

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to sponsor a Michelin Guide for restaurants across the State.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii has a rich and diverse culinary industry that makes significant contributions to the State's economy. Your Committee further finds that the Michelin Guide does not currently send its inspectors to Hawaii, limiting the potential of local restaurants and depriving them of the economic benefits that come with the award of a Michelin star. This measure supports the introduction of a Michelin Guide for Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the counties to assist in the financing of the Michelin Guide;
- (2) Adding the Mayors of each county to the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 118, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 118, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Todd).

SCRep. 1613 Economic Development & Technology on H.R. No. 115

The purpose of this measure is to endorse Taiwan's international participation, support the signing of a United States-Taiwan bilateral trade agreement, and commemorate the relationships and exchanges between the State of Hawaii and Taiwan.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and Taipei Economic and Cultural Office.

Your Committee finds that the United States and Taiwan are bonded by a shared commitment to democracy, freedom, and human rights and have bolstered their trade relations through the United States-Taiwan Initiative on 21st Century Trade. Your Committee further finds that Hawaii and Taiwan have a sister-state relationship and have engaged in various cultural and language exchanges. This measure reflects Hawaii's support for Taiwan's participation in international organizations and continued economic partnership with the United States and acknowledges the long-standing relationship between Hawaii and Taiwan.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding the President of the Republic of China to the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 115, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 115, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Todd).

SCRep. 1614 Economic Development & Technology on H.C.R. No. 119

The purpose of this measure is to endorse Taiwan's international participation, support the signing of a United States-Taiwan bilateral trade agreement, and commemorate the relationships and exchanges between the State of Hawaii and Taiwan.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and Taipei Economic and Cultural Office.

Your Committee finds that the United States and Taiwan are bonded by a shared commitment to democracy, freedom, and human rights and have bolstered their trade relations through the United States-Taiwan Initiative on 21st Century Trade. Your Committee further finds that Hawaii and Taiwan have a sister-state relationship and have engaged in various cultural and language exchanges. This measure reflects Hawaii's support for Taiwan's participation in international organizations and continued economic partnership with the United States and acknowledges the long-standing relationship between Hawaii and Taiwan.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding the President of the Republic of China to the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure; and

- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 119, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 119, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Todd).

SCRep. 1615 Economic Development & Technology/Culture & Arts on H.R. No. 134

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Hawaii Sister-State Committee to evaluate and develop recommendations for the initiation of a sister-state relationship between Hawaii and New Zealand to foster stronger ties in economic development, arts and cultural exchange, education, and environmental sustainability.

Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committees find that establishing a formal relationship between Hawaii and New Zealand could help foster ties in economic development, culture, education, and environmental sustainability. However, your Committees recognize that sister-state relationships are typically initiated with provinces and prefectures, not countries, and that initiating a different kind of relationship between Hawaii and New Zealand would be more appropriate.

Accordingly, your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Urging the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to evaluate and develop recommendations for a memorandum of understanding between Hawaii and New Zealand instead of urging the Hawaii Sister-State Committee to evaluate a sister-state relationship;
- (2) Adding the Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism and removing the Chair of the Hawaii Sister-State Committee from the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure; and
- (3) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Economic Development & Technology and Culture & Arts that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 134, as amended herein, and recommend that it be referred to your Committee on Finance, in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 134, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Economic Development & Technology: Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Holt, Tam, Todd).

Culture & Arts: Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Garrett).

SCRep. 1616 Economic Development & Technology/Culture & Arts on H.C.R. No. 140

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Hawaii Sister-State Committee to evaluate and develop recommendations for the initiation of a sister-state relationship between Hawaii and New Zealand to foster stronger ties in economic development, arts and cultural exchange, education, and environmental sustainability.

Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committees find that establishing a formal relationship between Hawaii and New Zealand could help foster ties in economic development, culture, education, and environmental sustainability. However, your Committees recognize that sister-state relationships are typically initiated with provinces and prefectures, not countries, and that initiating a different kind of relationship between Hawaii and New Zealand would be more appropriate.

Accordingly, your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Urging the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to evaluate and develop recommendations for a memorandum of understanding between Hawaii and New Zealand instead of urging the Hawaii Sister-State Committee to evaluate a sister-state relationship;
- (2) Adding the Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism and removing the Chair of the Hawaii Sister-State Committee from the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure; and
- (3) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Economic Development & Technology and Culture & Arts that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 140, as amended herein, and recommend that it be referred to your Committee on Finance, in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 140, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Economic Development & Technology: Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Holt, Tam, Todd).

Culture & Arts: Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Garrett).

SCRep. 1617 Transportation/Public Safety on H.R. No. 117

The purpose of this measure is to request the United States Department of Defense, United States Army, United States Navy, and State Department of Transportation to work with appropriate state and county departments and agencies to expand, plan, and coordinate work related to using Kolekole Pass as an expanded emergency exit route.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Military and Community Relations Office; Hawaii Military Affairs Council; and two individuals.

Your Committees find that Kolekole Pass has historically served as a vital transportation corridor through the Waianae mountain range and has the potential to provide a crucial emergency evacuation route for residents of the Leeward Coast. Your Committees further find that with Farrington Highway as the primary roadway for thousands of residents, limited access leaves communities vulnerable to gridlock during natural disasters and other emergencies. This measure will enhance public safety and disaster preparedness for West Oahu by encouraging collaboration between pertinent federal, state, and county agencies.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Transportation and Public Safety that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 117 and recommend that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Transportation: Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Cochran, Evslin, La Chica, Pierick).

Public Safety: Ayes, 7. Noes, 1 (Souza). Excused, 2 (Lamosao, Woodson).

SCRep. 1618 Transportation/Public Safety on H.C.R. No. 121

The purpose of this measure is to request the United States Department of Defense, United States Army, United States Navy, and State Department of Transportation to work with appropriate state and county departments and agencies to expand, plan, and coordinate work related to using Kolekole Pass as an expanded emergency exit route.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Military and Community Relations Office; Hawaii Military Affairs Council; and two individuals.

Your Committees find that Kolekole Pass has historically served as a vital transportation corridor through the Waianae mountain range and has the potential to provide a crucial emergency evacuation route for residents of the Leeward Coast. Your Committees further find that with Farrington Highway as the primary roadway for thousands of residents, limited access leaves communities vulnerable to gridlock during natural disasters and other emergencies. This measure will enhance public safety and disaster preparedness for West Oahu by encouraging collaboration between pertinent federal, state, and county agencies.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Transportation and Public Safety that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 121 and recommend that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Transportation: Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Cochran, Evslin, La Chica, Pierick).

Public Safety: Ayes, 7. Noes, 1 (Souza). Excused, 2 (Lamosao, Woodson).

SCRep. 1619 Labor on H.R. No. 111

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to study the establishment of a Hawaii Workforce Excellence Award Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Your Committee finds that creating a state award program for craftspersons would demonstrate the State's dedication to preserving its significant cultural history and promote future participation in potentially dwindling trades. Your Committee believes this measure would attract people to apprenticeships and technical training programs by elevating the importance and prestige of trades through a state award program that honors people for high standards of craftsmanship.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 111 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garrett).

SCRep. 1620 Labor on H.C.R. No. 115

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to study the establishment of a Hawaii Workforce Excellence Award Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Your Committee finds that creating a state award program for craftspersons would demonstrate the State's dedication to preserving its significant cultural history and promote future participation in potentially dwindling trades. Your Committee believes this measure would attract people to apprenticeships and technical training programs by elevating the importance and prestige of trades through a state award program that honors people for high standards of craftsmanship.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 115 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garrett).

SCRep. 1621 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.R. No. 69

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Transportation to plan, design, and implement traffic signage designating a:

- (1) Speed limit of thirty-five miles per hour; and
- (2) "No Passing" zone; and

The purpose of this measure is to request that the Department of Agriculture establish a list of prioritizing potential agricultural infrastructure improvement projects that would provide the most value to the State when considering:

- (1) The estimated increase in agricultural production if the recommendation infrastructure improvement project is implemented;
- (2) The estimated cost of the recommended infrastructure improvement project;
- (3) County plans;
- (4) County zoning and land use;
- (5) State land use; and
- (6) Any other factors that the Department of Agriculture finds relevant.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Agribusiness Development Corporation, Hawai'i Farm Bureau, Hawai'i Agriculture Research Center, Bayer, Kunia Village Title Holding Corporation, and one individual.

Your Committee received comments from the Hawaii Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the department doing the designation from the Hawaii Department of Agriculture to the Agribusiness Development Corporation; and

- (2) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purpose of clarity and consistency.

Your Committee notes that designating Kunia, Leilehua Plateau, and Poamoho as the Central Oahu Agricultural Corridor would benefit diversified farming lands. Your Committee further finds that because Hawaii is heavily reliant on imported food, the implementation of upgraded infrastructure for agricultural lands will increase the productivity which is essential for meeting the state's 2030 goal of doubling local food production. This measure asks the Agribusiness Development Corporation to submit a report containing its list and regulated findings and recommendations, include proposed legislation, if any, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the Regular Session.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 69, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 69, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Lowen, Ward).

SCRep. 1622 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.C.R. No. 77

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Transportation to plan, design, and implement traffic signage designating a:

- (1) Speed limit of thirty-five miles per hour; and
- (2) "No Passing" zone; and

The purpose of this measure is to request that the Department of Agriculture establish a list of prioritizing potential agricultural infrastructure improvement projects that would provide the most value to the State when considering:

- (1) The estimated increase in agricultural production if the recommendation infrastructure improvement project is implemented;
- (2) The estimated cost of the recommended infrastructure improvement project;
- (3) County plans;
- (4) County zoning and land use;
- (5) State land use; and
- (6) Any other factors that the Department of Agriculture finds relevant.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Agribusiness Development Corporation, Hawai'i Farm Bureau, Hawai'i Agriculture Research Center, Bayer, Kunia Village Title Holding Corporation, and one individual.

Your Committee received comments from the Hawaii Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the department responsible for designation from the Hawaii Department of Agriculture to the Agribusiness Development Corporation; and
- (2) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purpose of clarity and consistency.

Your Committee notes that designating Kunia, Leilehua Plateau, and Poamoho as the Central Oahu Agricultural Corridor would benefit diversified farming lands. Your Committee further finds that because Hawaii is heavily reliant on imported food, the implementation of upgraded infrastructure for agricultural lands will increase the productivity which is essential for meeting the state's 2030 goal of doubling local food production. This measure asks the Agribusiness Development Corporation to submit a report containing its list and regulated findings and recommendations, include proposed legislation, if any, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the Regular Session.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 77, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 77, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Lowen, Ward).

SCRep. 1623 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.R. No. 99

The purpose of this measure is to urge all counties to:

- (1) Adopt local zoning ordinances to require owners of agricultural-zoned lands to execute and record declarations that acknowledge state and county agricultural land use regulations and requirements and the penalties for noncompliance; and
- (2) Encourage all counties to promote the active use of agricultural lands by making information available on farm apprenticeship and mentoring programs to owners of agricultural lands.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that there is a prevalence of agricultural-zoned lands being used for other purposes that are not related to agricultural production. Your Committee finds that encouraging the State and counties to take actions to increase the number of agriculture-zoned land acres being used for agricultural purposes by the addition of mentorship programs, along with requiring owners of these lands to submit a declaration of compliance to acknowledge state and county land use requirements and penalties will effectively mitigate this issue.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 99 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Lowen, Ward).

SCRep. 1624 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.C.R. No. 103

The purpose of this measure is to urge all counties to:

- (1) Adopt local zoning ordinances to require owners of agricultural-zoned lands to execute and record declarations that acknowledge state and county agricultural land use regulations and requirements and the penalties for noncompliance; and
- (2) Encourage all counties to promote the active use of agricultural lands by making information available on farm apprenticeship and mentoring programs to owners of agricultural lands.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that there is a prevalence of agricultural-zoned lands being used for other purposes that are not related to agricultural production. Your Committee finds that encouraging the State and counties to take actions to increase the number of agriculture-zoned land acres being used for agricultural purposes by the addition of mentorship programs, along with requiring owners of these lands to submit a declaration of compliance to acknowledge state and county land use requirements and penalties will effectively mitigate this issue.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 103 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Lowen, Ward).

SCRep. 1625 Human Services & Homelessness on H.R. No. 170

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Human Services' Office of Youth Services and Juvenile Justice State Advisory Council to examine the availability and utilization of aina-based learning programs offered to youth in the juvenile legal system.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Mālama Mākua; Nā 'Ōpio Waiwai, Youth Council of 'Ēkolu Mea Nui; Debt Free Justice Hawai'i; 'Ēkolu Mea Nui; and Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i.

Your Committee finds that youth involved in the juvenile justice system often face financial hardships due to court-imposed fees, fines, and restitution. While community service is frequently ordered in lieu of financial penalties, existing opportunities often lack meaningful cultural or rehabilitative components, limiting their impact on youth development and reducing their effectiveness in preventing recidivism. This measure requests the Department of Human Services' Office of Youth Services and Juvenile Justice State Advisory Council to examine the availability and utilization of aina-based learning programs as an alternative for youth in the juvenile legal system to promote cultural reconnection, foster rehabilitation, and strengthen youth ties to their land, families, and communities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 170, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 170, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Takenouchi).

SCRep. 1626 Human Services & Homelessness on H.C.R. No. 174

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Human Services' Office of Youth Services and Juvenile Justice State Advisory Council to examine the availability and utilization of aina-based learning programs offered to youth in the juvenile legal system.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Mālama Mākua; Nā 'Ōpio Waiwai, Youth Council of 'Ēkolu Mea Nui; Debt Free Justice Hawai'i; 'Ēkolu Mea Nui; and Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i.

Your Committee finds that youth involved in the juvenile justice system often face financial hardships due to court-imposed fees, fines, and restitution. While community service is frequently ordered in lieu of financial penalties, existing opportunities often lack meaningful cultural or rehabilitative components, limiting their impact on youth development and reducing their effectiveness in preventing recidivism. This measure requests the Department of Human Services' Office of Youth Services and Juvenile Justice State Advisory Council to examine the availability and utilization of aina-based learning programs as an alternative for youth in the juvenile legal system to promote cultural reconnection, foster rehabilitation, and strengthen youth ties to their land, families, and communities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 174, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 174, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Takenouchi).

SCRep. 1627 Human Services & Homelessness on H.R. No. 103

The purpose of this measure is to request the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women to convene a working group to develop measures to strengthen protections under Title IX.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission; Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women; Imua Alliance; Every Voice Hawai'i; AAUW of Hawai'i; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that sex-based discrimination and harassment remain persistent issues in Hawaii's education system, with many incidents going unreported, creating hostile learning environments that negatively affect students' well-being and academic success. This measure seeks to address these challenges by requesting the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women to convene a working group to develop stronger state-level protections under Title IX and ensure equal access to educational opportunities for all students in Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding a representative of the Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission and a student representative to the working group;

- (2) Clarifying that the chairperson of the working group is requested to invite certain members of the working group; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 103, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 103, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 2 (Alcos, Garcia). Excused, 1 (Takenouchi).

SCRep. 1628 Human Services & Homelessness on H.C.R. No. 107

The purpose of this measure is to request the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women to convene a working group to develop measures to strengthen protections under Title IX.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission; Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women; Imua Alliance; Every Voice Hawai'i; AAUW of Hawai'i; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that sex-based discrimination and harassment remain persistent issues in Hawaii's education system, with many incidents going unreported, creating hostile learning environments that negatively affect students' well-being and academic success. This measure seeks to address these challenges by requesting the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women to convene a working group to develop stronger state-level protections under Title IX and ensure equal access to educational opportunities for all students in Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding a representative of the Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission and a student representative to the working group;
- (2) Clarifying that the chairperson of the working group is requested to invite certain members of the working group; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 107, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 107, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 2 (Alcos, Garcia). Excused, 1 (Takenouchi).

SCRep. 1629 Higher Education on H.R. No. 66

The purpose of this measure is to urge the University of Hawaii President and Board of Regents to establish a Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at the University of Hawaii Maui College.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System and Healthcare Association of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the demand for healthcare services in Maui County is increasing due to a growing and aging population. Your Committee further finds that the University of Hawaii Maui College currently offers a Practical Nurse Certificate of Achievement and an Associate in Science in Nursing degree, which prepare students for entry-level nursing positions. Students who complete the Associate in Science in Nursing Program have the opportunity to earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree through the University of Hawaii at Manoa. However, your Committee believes that establishing a dedicated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at the University of Hawaii Maui College will provide Maui residents with an uninterrupted pathway for more advanced nursing knowledge along with greater advancement opportunities.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 66 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Sayama).

SCRep. 1630 Higher Education on H.C.R. No. 73

The purpose of this measure is to urge the University of Hawaii President and Board of Regents to establish a Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at the University of Hawaii Maui College.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System and Healthcare Association of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the demand for healthcare services in Maui County is increasing due to a growing and aging population. Your Committee further finds that the University of Hawaii Maui College currently offers a Practical Nurse Certificate of Achievement and an Associate in Science in Nursing degree, which prepare students for entry-level nursing positions. Students who complete the Associate in Science in Nursing Program have the opportunity to earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree through the University of Hawaii at Manoa. However, your Committee believes that establishing a dedicated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at the University of Hawaii Maui College will provide Maui residents with an uninterrupted pathway for more advanced nursing knowledge along with greater advancement opportunities.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 73 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Sayama).

SCRep. 1631 Education/Higher Education on H.R. No. 67

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Education and University of Hawaii to assess the criteria required to establish an educational pipeline and curriculum to ensure that students acquire the necessary skills in advanced manufacturing and cybersecurity.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; Hawai'i Technology Development Corporation; Hawaii Military Affairs Council; and one individual.

Your Committees find that advanced manufacturing refers to the incorporation of various innovative technologies that can reduce shipping and import costs and enhance delivery times if implemented locally. Your Committees further find that cybersecurity is the art of protecting networks, devices, and data from unauthorized access or criminal use and the practice of ensuring confidentiality, integrity, and availability of information. Your Committees recognize the growing importance of advanced manufacturing and cybersecurity and believe that providing education in these fields will give students the skills needed to enter into growing modern industries.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Education and Higher Education that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 67 and recommend its adoption.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Education: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Muraoka).

Higher Education: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Muraoka).

SCRep. 1632 Education/Higher Education on H.C.R. No. 75

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Education and University of Hawaii to assess the criteria required to establish an educational pipeline and curriculum to ensure that students acquire the necessary skills in advanced manufacturing and cybersecurity.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; Hawai'i Technology Development Corporation; Hawaii Military Affairs Council; and one individual. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committees find that advanced manufacturing refers to the incorporation of various innovative technologies that can reduce shipping and import costs and enhance delivery times if implemented locally. Your Committees further find that cybersecurity is the art of protecting networks, devices, and data from unauthorized access or criminal use and the practice of ensuring confidentiality, integrity, and availability of information. Your Committees recognize the growing importance of advanced manufacturing and cybersecurity and believe that providing education in these fields will give students the skills needed to enter into growing modern industries.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Education and Higher Education that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 75 and recommend its adoption.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committees.

Education: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Muraoka).

Higher Education: Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Muraoka).

SCRep. 1633 Education on H.R. No. 91

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Education to provide students with information pertaining to changes to gun safety and storage laws.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the presence of unsecured or improperly stored firearms significantly increase the risk of unintentional injuries and death among children. To address the prevalence of unsecured or improperly stored firearms, numerous states, including Hawaii, have passed or are considering the passage of secure storage laws to prevent unauthorized firearm access by children. Your Committee believes that parents and members of households should be actively updated as to any changes to gun safety requirements, including secure storage laws, and finds that the Department of Education is best situated to inform students, parents, and educators on gun safety and storage laws, including any updates to those laws.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Department of Education is requested to post publicly accessible information on its website pertaining to changes to gun safety and storage laws, rather than provide the information to students, to ensure that students, parents, and educators have up-to-date resources on secure firearm storage requirements; and
- (2) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 91, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 91, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Garrett, Kapela, Sayama, Muraoka).

SCRep. 1634 Education on H.C.R. No. 95

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Education to provide students with information pertaining to changes to gun safety and storage laws.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that the presence of unsecured or improperly stored firearms significantly increase the risk of unintentional injuries and death among children. To address the prevalence of unsecured or improperly stored firearms, numerous states, including Hawaii, have passed or are considering the passage of secure storage laws to prevent unauthorized firearm access by children. Your Committee believes that parents and members of households should be actively updated as to any changes to gun safety requirements, including secure storage laws, and finds that the Department of Education is best situated to inform students, parents, and educators on gun safety and storage laws, including any updates to those laws.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Department of Education is requested to post publicly accessible information on its website pertaining to changes to gun safety and storage laws, rather than provide the information to students, to ensure that students, parents, and educators have up-to-date resources on secure firearm storage requirements; and
- (2) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 95, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 95, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Garrett, Kapela, Sayama, Muraoka).

SCRep. 1635 Education on H.R. No. 81

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Education to establish an annual Climate Week in all public schools across the State to spread climate awareness, education, and participation in sustainability initiatives.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Climate Change and Health Working Group; Coalition Earth; and six individuals.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's youth are confronting a rapidly changing world due to the effects of climate change, which directly impacts the State through coastal erosion, rising sea levels, and more frequent and intense storms, and poses a serious risk to the Hawaii's native ecosystems and cultural practices. Your Committee further finds that the State's Climate Week does not include activities or initiatives at Department of Education schools, resulting in limited promotion of climate awareness among public school students. Your Committee believes that the establishment of annual Climate Week in all public schools in the State will increase student awareness, education, and participation in sustainability initiatives that combat climate change.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 81 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Garrett, Kapela, Sayama, Muraoka).

SCRep. 1636 Education on H.C.R. No. 87

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Education to establish an annual Climate Week in all public schools across the State to spread climate awareness, education, and participation in sustainability initiatives.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Climate Change and Health Working Group; Coalition Earth; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's youth are confronting a rapidly changing world due to the effects of climate change, which directly impacts the State through coastal erosion, rising sea levels, and more frequent and intense storms, and poses a serious risk to the Hawaii's native ecosystems and cultural practices. Your Committee further finds that the State's Climate Week does not include activities or initiatives at Department of Education schools, resulting in limited promotion of climate awareness among public school students. Your Committee believes that the establishment of annual Climate Week in all public schools in the State will increase student awareness, education, and participation in sustainability initiatives that combat climate change.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 87 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Garrett, Kapela, Sayama, Muraoka).

SCRep. 1637 Education on H.R. No. 107

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Education to provide a detailed report to the Legislature on the true cost of producing school meals to ensure transparency and avoid unnecessary prices.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Healthy Eating, Active Living; Hawai'i Hunger Action Network; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; and six individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Education cites the current cost of producing a student lunch at \$9.00. Your Committee further finds that the Department of Education has proposed an increase in school meal prices, which would lead to an increase in the price of student lunch from \$2.50 to \$4.75 for grades kindergarten through eight and from \$2.75 to \$5.00 for grades nine through twelve by the 2028-2029 school year. Your Committee believes that an increase in prices for school meals will negatively impact Hawaii's working families and students that receive free or reduced-price meals and finds it essential that proper reporting processes are in place to provide transparency as to the costs of producing school meals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 107 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Garrett, Kapela, Sayama, Muraoka).

SCRep. 1638 Education on H.C.R. No. 111

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Education to provide a detailed report to the Legislature on the true cost of producing school meals to ensure transparency and avoid unnecessary prices.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Healthy Eating, Active Living; Hawai'i Hunger Action Network; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Education cites the current cost of producing a student lunch at \$9.00. Your Committee further finds that the Department of Education has proposed an increase in school meal prices, which would lead to an increase in the price of student lunch from \$2.50 to \$4.75 for grades kindergarten through eight and from \$2.75 to \$5.00 for grades nine through twelve by the 2028-2029 school year. Your Committee believes that an increase in prices for school meals will negatively impact Hawaii's working families and students that receive free or reduced-price meals and finds it essential that proper reporting processes are in place to provide transparency as to the costs of producing school meals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 111 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Garrett, Kapela, Sayama, Muraoka).

SCRep. 1639 Human Services & Homelessness on H.R. No. 140

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Human Services to apply for and implement the Elderly Simplified Application Project in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Healthy Eating, Active Living Coalition; Hawai'i Hunger Action Network; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that many low-income households in Hawaii struggle to afford food due to the State's high cost of living, making food assistance programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) critical to ensuring nutritional security. Despite SNAP's role in supporting over one hundred thirty thousand residents and contributing significantly to the local economy, barriers to enrollment and participation persist, particularly for older adults. This measure addresses this issue by requesting the Department of Human Services to apply for and implement the Elderly Simplified Application Project, which streamlines the SNAP application process, waives certain requirements, and extends certification periods to improve accessibility for seniors.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 140, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 140, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Takenouchi).

SCRep. 1640 Human Services & Homelessness on H.C.R. No. 146

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Human Services to apply for and implement the Elderly Simplified Application Project in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Healthy Eating, Active Living Coalition; Hawai'i Hunger Action Network; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that many low-income households in Hawaii struggle to afford food due to the State's high cost of living, making food assistance programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) critical to ensuring nutritional security. Despite SNAP's role in supporting over one hundred thirty thousand residents and contributing significantly to the local economy, barriers to enrollment and participation persist, particularly for older adults. This measure addresses this issue by requesting the Department of Human Services to apply for and implement the Elderly Simplified Application Project, which streamlines the SNAP application process, waives certain requirements, and extends certification periods to improve accessibility for seniors.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 146, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 146, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Takenouchi).

SCRep. 1641 Human Services & Homelessness on H.R. No. 133

The purpose of this measure is to request the Office of Wellness and Resilience to develop a report to address the developmental needs of children born during the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Wellness and Resilience; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Parents And Children Together; and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that children born during the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic have faced significant disruptions to their social, emotional, and cognitive development due to limited social interactions, increased screen time, and instability within households. Research indicates that many of these children are experiencing developmental delays, particularly in communication, fine motor skills, emotional regulation, and social engagement, which may lead to long-term academic and behavioral challenges. This measure requests the Office of Wellness and Resilience to develop a report that examines the developmental needs of children born between 2018 and 2025 and propose strategies for early intervention and support, ensuring that affected children receive the necessary resources to mitigate developmental setbacks and thrive in their educational and social environments.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Extending the submission deadline for the report by the Office of Wellness and Resilience to the Legislature by one year to December 31, 2026; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 133, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 133, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Takenouchi).

SCRep. 1642 Human Services & Homelessness on H.C.R. No. 139

The purpose of this measure is to request the Office of Wellness and Resilience to develop a report to address the developmental needs of children born during the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Wellness and Resilience; Department of Education; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Parents And Children Together; and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that children born during the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic have faced significant disruptions to their social, emotional, and cognitive development due to limited social interactions, increased screen time, and instability within households. Research indicates that many of these

children are experiencing developmental delays, particularly in communication, fine motor skills, emotional regulation, and social engagement, which may lead to long-term academic and behavioral challenges. This measure requests the Office of Wellness and Resilience to develop a report that examines the developmental needs of children born between 2018 and 2025 and propose strategies for early intervention and support, ensuring that affected children receive the necessary resources to mitigate developmental setbacks and thrive in their educational and social environments.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Extending the submission deadline for the report by the Office of Wellness and Resilience to the Legislature by one year to December 31, 2026; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 139, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 139, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Takenouchi).

SCRep. 1643 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.R. No. 24

The purpose of this measure is to request that the Department of Agriculture includes on the State of Hawaii Plant and Animal Declaration Form a section for each individual required to complete the form to acknowledge and affirm that the individual:

- (1) Is aware of the existence of various federal, state, and county laws, rules and ordinances that protect public monuments and structures, including but not limited to Native Hawaiian cultural sites, burial grounds, and places of worship;
- (2) Is aware of ways to learn more about those laws, rules, and ordinances; and
- (3) That the individual will heed those laws, rules, and ordinances.

Your Committee received testimony comments for this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language to include that once the Akamai Arrival Program is underway that the intent of this resolution be facilitated using the program; and
- (2) Inserting language acknowledging federal and state laws on protected, indigenous, endangered, and threatened wildlife; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purpose of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 24, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 24, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Lowen, Ward).

SCRep. 1644 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.C.R. No. 25

The purpose of this measure is to request that the Department of Agriculture includes on the State of Hawaii Plant and Animal Declaration Form a section for each individual required to complete the form to acknowledge and affirm that the individual:

- (1) Is aware of the existence of various federal, state, and county laws, rules and ordinances that protect public monuments and structures, including but not limited to Native Hawaiian cultural sites, burial grounds, and places of worship;
- (2) Is aware of ways to learn more about those laws, rules, and ordinances; and
- (3) That the individual will heed those laws, rules, and ordinances.

Your Committee received comments for this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language to include that once the Akamai Arrival Program is underway that the intent of this resolution be facilitated using the program; and
- (2) Inserting language acknowledging federal and state laws on protected, indigenous, endangered, and threatened wildlife; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purpose of clarity and consistency.

Your Committee finds that the use of the State of Hawaii Plant and Animal Declaration Form has been an effective tool for assisting various state departments with data collection, research, statistics, and monitoring. Your Committee further notes that the utilization of the State of Hawaii Plant and Animal Declaration Form to inform visitors of the various federal and state laws to protect public monuments and structures. This measure will further educate visitors arriving to Hawaii of the various laws, rules, and ordinances.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 25, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 25, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Lowen, Ward).

SCRep. 1645 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.R. No. 61

The purpose of this measure is to request that the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu:

- (1) Create a dedicated animal education and training complex within the Kalaeloa parklands; and
- (2) Include bathrooms, secure indoor meeting and exhibition rooms similar to the McCoy Pavilion at Ala Moana Beach Park, food preparation facilities, and secure storage areas that may be rented by animal clubs to store necessary equipment, such as equipment for dog agility, dog obedience, and fast CAT and cages required for benched cat, rabbit, and bird shows.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the competition with sports groups in acquiring area for an animal-friendly park has become an increasingly pressing issue for the Oahu community. Your Committee further finds that the intent to use Kalaeloa parklands to build an animal-friendly park with animal education and training complexes is an important facility for the community. With the influx in the population size in Kapolei, and the presence of only one on-leash dog park, and no off-leash dog parks in District 3, this measure asks the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu to take actions to address this issue for the District 3 community.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 61 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Lowen, Ward).

SCRep. 1646 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.C.R. No. 68

The purpose of this measure is to request that the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu:

- (1) Create a dedicated animal education and training complex within the Kalaeloa parklands; and
- (2) Include bathrooms, secure indoor meeting and exhibition rooms similar to the McCoy Pavilion at Ala Moana Beach Park, food preparation facilities, and secure storage areas that may be rented by animal clubs to store necessary equipment, such as equipment for dog agility, dog obedience, and fast CAT and cages required for benched cat, rabbit, and bird shows.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the competition with sports groups in acquiring area for an animal-friendly park has become an increasingly pressing issue for the Oahu community. Your Committee further finds that the intent to use Kalaeloa parklands to build an animal-friendly park with animal education and training complexes is an important facility for the community. With the influx in the population size in Kapolei, and the presence of only one on-leash dog park, and no off-leash dog parks in District 3, this measure asks the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu to take actions to address this issue for the District 3 community.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 68 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Lowen, Ward).

SCRep. 1647 Economic Development & Technology on H.R. No. 151

The purpose of this measure is to request the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation to increase its focus on advanced manufacturing and cybersecurity to build a stronger, diversified economy, create high-wage job opportunities, and position Hawaii as a leader in innovation and national security in the Pacific.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Technology Development Corporation and Hawaii Military Affairs Council. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committee finds that advanced manufacturing can benefit Hawaii's local businesses by enhancing efficiency, improving product quality, and reducing manufacturing costs. Your Committee further finds that it is imperative to ensure that local businesses are equipped with the knowledge and resources needed to protect against cybersecurity threats. This measure encourages the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation to increase its focus on initiatives related to advanced manufacturing and cybersecurity.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 151 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Todd).

SCRep. 1648 Economic Development & Technology on H.C.R. No. 156

The purpose of this measure is to request the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation to increase its focus on advanced manufacturing and cybersecurity to build a stronger, diversified economy, create high-wage job opportunities, and position Hawaii as a leader in innovation and national security in the Pacific.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Technology Development Corporation and Hawaii Military Affairs Council. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committee finds that advanced manufacturing can benefit Hawaii's local businesses by enhancing efficiency, improving product quality, and reducing manufacturing costs. Your Committee further finds that it is imperative to ensure that local businesses are equipped with the knowledge and resources needed to protect against cybersecurity threats. This measure encourages the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation to increase its focus on initiatives related to advanced manufacturing and cybersecurity.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 156 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Todd).

SCRep. 1649 Economic Development & Technology on H.R. No. 32

The purpose of this measure is to request the Postmaster General of the United States Postal Service to relocate the Pearl City Post Office to the United States Navy property on the Pearl City Peninsula.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Pearl City Neighborhood Board and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that there are safety and traffic congestion concerns regarding the Pearl City Post Office, located on the northeast corner of Kamehameha Highway and Acacia Road. Your Committee further finds that the Pearl City Post Office is at its maximum spatial capacity to accommodate the increased need for postal services in the area. This measure encourages the relocation of the Pearl City Post Office to a larger, less-congested area.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 32 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Todd).

SCRep. 1650 Economic Development & Technology on H.C.R. No. 33

The purpose of this measure is to request the Postmaster General of the United States Postal Service to relocate the Pearl City Post Office to the United States Navy property on the Pearl City Peninsula.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Pearl City Neighborhood Board and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that there are safety and traffic congestion concerns regarding the Pearl City Post Office, located on the northeast corner of Kamehameha Highway and Acacia Road. Your Committee further finds that the Pearl City Post Office is at its maximum spatial capacity to accommodate the increased need for postal services in the area. This measure encourages the relocation of the Pearl City Post Office to a larger, less-congested area.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 33 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Todd).

SCRep. 1651 Economic Development & Technology on H.R. No. 152

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Task Force for SPEED (Simplifying Permitting for Enhanced Economic Development) to identify actions needed to expedite, facilitate, and coordinate state and intergovernmental permit processes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Land Use Commission; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Public Utilities Commission; and Grassroot Institute of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the permitting process can be subject to lengthy waiting periods, leading to delays in housing, industrial, and commercial projects and slowing economic development. This measure helps bring together representatives from various agencies responsible for permitting to address challenges and actions needed to improve the permitting process.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 152 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Todd).

SCRep. 1652 Economic Development & Technology on H.C.R. No. 157

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Task Force for SPEED (Simplifying Permitting for Enhanced Economic Development) to identify actions needed to expedite, facilitate, and coordinate state and intergovernmental permit processes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Land Use Commission; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Public Utilities Commission; and Grassroot Institute of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the permitting process can be subject to lengthy waiting periods, leading to delays in housing, industrial, and commercial projects and slowing economic development. This measure helps bring together representatives from various agencies responsible for permitting to address challenges and actions needed to improve the permitting process.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 157 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Todd).

SCRep. 1653 Labor on H.R. No. 94

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Human Resources Development to establish the Hawaii State Fellows Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development.

Your Committee finds that civil servants are vital to the efficacy of the state government, but the State is facing a growing recruitment and retention crisis in public employment. Fellowships and similar training programs offer a potential solution to fill this gap, offering young workers and state employers the opportunity of a trial run while investing in local workforce development. Your Committee believes that establishing the Hawaii State Fellows Program will address workforce shortages by providing opportunities for individuals to enter public service.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 94 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5; Ayes with Reservations (Reyes Oda). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garrett).

SCRep. 1654 Labor on H.C.R. No. 98

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Human Resources Development to establish the Hawaii State Fellows Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development.

Your Committee finds that civil servants are vital to the efficacy of the state government, but the State is facing a growing recruitment and retention crisis in public employment. Fellowships and similar training programs offer a potential solution to fill this gap, offering young workers and state employers the opportunity of a trial run while investing in local workforce development. Your Committee believes that establishing the Hawaii State Fellows Program will address workforce shortages by providing opportunities for individuals to enter public service.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 98 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5; Ayes with Reservations (Reyes Oda). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garrett).

SCRep. 1655 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 100

The purpose of this measure is to provide that leaders of nonprofit organizations shall not be fingerprinted when applying for a liquor license in counties with a population of less than five hundred thousand.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Maui Arts & Cultural Center.

Your Committee finds that there are nonprofit organizations that serve alcohol at their venues that host and promote a variety of events, including cultural and artistic events. As such, those nonprofit organizations are required to be holders of liquor licenses.

However, your Committee further finds that under the existing rules of certain liquor commissions, the officers and board members of those nonprofit organizations are subject to fingerprinting requirements. This process has been considered demeaning and has discouraged candidates from serving as officers and board members of those nonprofit organizations. This measure eliminates the burdensome requirement for leaders of nonprofit organizations to undergo fingerprinting for liquor licenses.

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 S.B. No. 100, S.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Garcia).

SCRep. 1656 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 112

The purpose of this measure is to allow surviving immediate family members of deceased persons for whom law enforcement initiated an investigation to receive a copy of the closing report prepared by the investigating police department after a certain period of time elapses.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Police Department; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Information Practices.

Your Committee finds that when a family loses a loved one under circumstances requiring a law enforcement investigation, unanswered questions can linger for years, prolonging their grief and uncertainty. Access to the investigative closing report can provide critical information and, in some cases, a sense of closure. However, obtaining these reports is often an arduous process, with some families waiting years to receive them. This measure ensures that surviving immediate family members can obtain the closing report of a law enforcement investigation into their relative's death within a specified timeframe, providing greater transparency and support for grieving families.

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 S.B. No. 112, S.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 2 (Garcia, Shimizu). Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 1657 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 289

The purpose of this measure is to establish uniform provisions for the assessment of certain administrative penalties under the State Ethics Code and Lobbyist Law.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Ethics Commission and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the existing enforcement process for the Hawai'i State Ethics Commission entails the respondent to respond to a charge multiple times, which extends the process, sometimes lasting five to six months. For matters in which the facts and law are not in question, an expedited process may reduce the burden on respondents and minimize unnecessary waste of time and resources and that the timely resolution of ethics and lobbying cases before the Hawaii State Ethics Commission enhances public trust and transparency. This measure establishes an expedited enforcement process to address violations of the ethics and lobbying laws.

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 S.B. No. 289 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1658 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1319

The purpose of this measure is to require that the Attorney General's identification system include criminal cases initiated via citations that resulted in conviction, deferred acceptance of guilty or nolo contendere plea, or conditional discharge, and that a court order identification processing in such cases.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Law Enforcement; Honolulu Police Department; and Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that this measure would significantly enhance the comprehensiveness and effectiveness of the State's criminal identification databases, addressing an important gap in the current system. Under existing law, only criminal history record information in cases initiated by arrest or penal summons are required and authorized to be collected by the Hawaii Criminal Justice Data Center. This fails to account for any misdemeanor, petty misdemeanor, or criminal violation level cases initiated by citation.

Your Committee further finds that law enforcement agencies within the State's criminal justice system routinely use and rely upon information collected by the Hawaii Criminal Justice Data Center for complete and accurate criminal history record information. Under existing law, officers have discretion to issue citations in lieu of arrest for non-felony offenses where the officer is reasonably satisfied that the person meets various factors. However, to assist in making that determination, officers are relying on this incomplete criminal history record information. This measure provides the statutory means to ensure that the

criminal sentences for individuals issued citations are accurately processed and recorded for use by law enforcement agencies, thereby enhancing accuracy and reliability of criminal history record information.

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 S.B. No. 1319, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1659 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1382

The purpose of this measure is to specify that intentionally or knowingly causing bodily injury to a National Guard member who is engaged in the performance of duty is a class C felony.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Defense; Hawai‘i National Guard; and Honolulu Police Department.

Your Committee finds that although National Guard members play a vital role in safeguarding communities during emergencies, including natural disasters and crises requiring urgent response, their duties also expose them to potential threats and harm. This measure strengthens legal protections for National Guard members, ensuring that they are shielded from assaults while carrying out their responsibilities.

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 S.B. No. 1382 and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 1660 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1341

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Add the promotion of critical infrastructure protection and emergency management, response, and recovery to the relevant purposes of the Energy Data Collection Program; and
- (2) Authorize the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security to examine the energy information statements submitted pursuant to the Energy Industry Information Reporting Act.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and Hawaii State Energy Office.

Your Committee finds that improving the State's energy data collection and security is essential for informed policy-making and emergency preparedness. This measure strengthens data management by expanding authorized access to key government agencies involved in taxation, public health, emergency management, and homeland security.

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 S.B. No. 1341 and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 1661 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1008

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal the requirement that a public or private entity that provides a parking space for persons with disabilities comply with laws governing parking for disabled persons, including any penalties; and
- (2) Authorize each county to adopt ordinances to enforce the accessible parking space requirements for parking spaces reserved for persons with disabilities and electric vehicles.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Disability and Communication Access Board; one member of the Maui County Council; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Retail Merchants of Hawaii and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the designated parking program for individuals with disabilities was created to provide accessible parking for those with mobility challenges. However, widespread misuse and inadequate enforcement have made it difficult for legitimate users to access these spaces. Your Committee also finds that the State has taken significant steps to promote electric vehicle adoption as part of its broader sustainability goals and charging spaces are critical for electric vehicle users to ensure they have the necessary power to reach their destinations. When non-electric vehicles occupy these spaces, it not only removes a key incentive for clean energy transportation but also creates obstacles for drivers who depend on charging availability. To address these issues, this measure grants counties the authority to establish and enforce regulations that protect access to accessible parking and electric vehicle charging stations, ensuring they serve their intended purposes without obstruction.

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 S.B. No. 1008, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 1662 Transportation on H.R. No. 125

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Transportation, Department of Education, and Department of Transportation of the County of Maui to collaborate to propose viable solutions to improve pedestrian and traffic safety and relieve traffic congestion around Haiku Elementary School.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from two individuals.

Your Committee finds that traffic congestion and safety concerns around Haiku Elementary School have become a growing issue, particularly during school drop-off and pick-up times. Your Committee further finds that parents, teachers, and community members have raised concerns about pedestrian safety, the

need for better traffic management, and infrastructure improvements to enhance safety and efficiency. This measure will improve traffic flow near Haiku Elementary School, ensuring the safety of students and other pedestrians.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 125, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Education in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 125, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1663 Transportation on H.C.R. No. 129

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Transportation, Department of Education, and Department of Transportation of the County of Maui to collaborate to propose viable solutions to improve pedestrian and traffic safety and relieve traffic congestion around Haiku Elementary School.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that traffic congestion and safety concerns around Haiku Elementary School have become a growing issue, particularly during school drop-off and pick-up times. Your Committee further finds that parents, teachers, and community members have raised concerns about pedestrian safety, the need for better traffic management, and infrastructure improvements to enhance safety and efficiency. This measure will improve traffic flow near Haiku Elementary School, ensuring the safety of students and other pedestrians.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 129, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Education in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 129, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1664 Transportation on H.R. No. 127

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Urge the Federal Aviation Administration and State Department of Transportation to encourage and facilitate the expansion of alternative airline services that utilize short takeoff and landing-capable aircrafts; and
- (2) Request the Legislative Reference Bureau to conduct a study on the feasibility and implementation of a rural air service program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that rural communities in the State, including those in Molokai and Lanai, rely on air travel for essential services such as healthcare, education, and economic opportunities. Recent reductions in airline service and rising ticket costs have significantly limited access to reliable transportation, making it more difficult for residents to meet basic needs. This measure aims to improve connectivity for rural and remote communities across the State through alternative airline services to ensure residents have access to essential services.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the Department of Transportation, instead of the Legislative Reference Bureau, to conduct the study;
- (2) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 127, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Legislative Management in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 127, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1665 Transportation on H.C.R. No. 131

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Urge the Federal Aviation Administration and State Department of Transportation to encourage and facilitate the expansion of alternative airline services that utilize short takeoff and landing-capable aircrafts; and
- (2) Request the Legislative Reference Bureau to conduct a study on the feasibility and implementation of a rural air service program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Transportation and Legislative Reference Bureau.

Your Committee finds that rural communities in the State, including those in Molokai and Lanai, rely on air travel for essential services such as healthcare, education, and economic opportunities. Recent reductions in airline service and rising ticket costs have significantly limited access to reliable transportation, making it more difficult for residents to meet basic needs. This measure aims to improve connectivity for rural and remote communities across the State through alternative airline services to ensure residents have access to essential services.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the Department of Transportation, instead of the Legislative Reference Bureau, to conduct the study;
- (2) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 131, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Legislative Management in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 131, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1666 Transportation on H.R. No. 131

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Transportation, Department of Education, and City and County of Honolulu to implement visibility enhancement measures on the Kuahelani Avenue crosswalk at Kipapa Elementary School.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Kipapa Elementary School; Kipapa Elementary School Community Council; and eight individuals.

Your Committee finds that pedestrian safety remains a critical concern, with thousands of pedestrians injured or killed in traffic accidents each year. The crosswalk on Kuahelani Avenue near Kipapa Elementary School presents significant hazards due to limited visibility from road curvature, parked vehicles, and high traffic volume. This measure aims to improve pedestrian safety at this high-risk location by implementing necessary safety measures, such as installing warning signs and speed bumps, to ensure the safety of students and other pedestrians who frequent this area.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its title to make technical amendments; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 131, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Education in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 131, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1667 Transportation on H.C.R. No. 137

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Transportation, Department of Education, and City and County of Honolulu to implement visibility enhancement measures on the Kuahelani Avenue crosswalk at Kipapa Elementary School.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Kipapa Elementary School; Kipapa Elementary School Community Council; and eight individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that pedestrian safety remains a critical concern, with thousands of pedestrians injured or killed in traffic accidents each year. The crosswalk on Kuahelani Avenue near Kipapa Elementary School presents significant hazards due to limited visibility from road curvature, parked vehicles, and high traffic volume. This measure aims to improve pedestrian safety at this high-risk location by implementing necessary safety measures, such as installing warning signs and speed bumps, to ensure the safety of students and other pedestrians who frequent this area.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its title to make technical amendments; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 137, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Education in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 137, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1668 Transportation on H.R. No. 43

The purpose of this measure is to urge the City and County of Honolulu to work with stakeholders to construct an emergency access road on the Waianae coast.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Military Affairs Council and nine individuals.

Your Committee finds that ensuring multiple emergency access routes is critical to public safety, particularly in communities with limited road infrastructure. The devastating impact of the 2023 Lahaina wildfire highlighted the dangers posed by inaccessible evacuation routes, reinforcing the need for improved emergency planning. This measure aims to ensure residents have a safe and reliable evacuation route in the event of a disaster.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 43, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Public Safety in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 43, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1669 Transportation on H.C.R. No. 43

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Law Enforcement and Department of Transportation to study the possibility of a highway patrol and the installation of speed cameras along major freeways and highways in primary areas of speeding.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Life of the Land; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary; Department of Law Enforcement; Department of Transportation; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that increasing traffic congestion and excessive speeding on the State's roadways pose significant risks to drivers, passengers, bicyclists, and pedestrians. Limited resources among local law enforcement agencies make it challenging to effectively enforce speed limits and address traffic safety concerns. This measure aims to enhance enforcement and reduce speed-related crashes by looking into the possibility of implementing speed cameras on major freeways and highways in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Expanding the scope of the study to include the impact this measure would have on the district courts;
- (2) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 43, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 43, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1670 Transportation on H.R. No. 38

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Public Utilities Commission to support the complete transfer of its regulatory authority over motor carriers and other means of transportation to the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Public Utilities Commission; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that effective regulation and enforcement of motor carriers operating on public highways is essential for public safety, fair industry practices, and compliance with state laws. While the Public Utilities Commission currently oversees motor carrier regulation, enforcement responsibilities have been transferred to the Department of Transportation, which has a broader enforcement presence and expertise in transportation oversight. This measure will provide a more streamlined and efficient regulatory framework for motor carriers throughout the State by transferring regulatory authority to the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that other means of transportation include water carriers; and
- (2) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 38, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 38, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1671 Transportation on H.C.R. No. 45

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Public Utilities Commission to support the complete transfer of its regulatory authority over motor carriers and other means of transportation to the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Public Utilities Commission; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that effective regulation and enforcement of motor carriers operating on public highways is essential for public safety, fair industry practices, and compliance with state laws. While the Public Utilities Commission currently oversees motor carrier regulation, enforcement responsibilities have been transferred to the Department of Transportation, which has a broader enforcement presence and expertise in transportation oversight. This measure will provide a more streamlined and efficient regulatory framework for motor carriers throughout the State by transferring regulatory authority to the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that other means of transportation include water carriers; and
- (2) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 45, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 45, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1672 Education on H.R. No. 100

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Education to take immediate action to strengthen local farm-to-school initiatives.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; University of Hawai'i at Mānoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience; Climate Future Forum's Regenerative Food Systems Working Group; Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition and Climate Protectors Hawaii; and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that Act 175, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021 (Act 175), established a goal for at least thirty percent of school meal ingredients to be sourced locally by 2030. Your Committee further finds that significant barriers continue to hinder progress in meeting the local food procurement goal, including procurement regulations, distribution logistics, and inconsistent farmer-school partnerships. Your Committee believes that immediate action to strengthen local farm-to-school initiatives should be taken by the Department of Education to meet the requirements of Act 175 to ensure that Hawaii's students receive school meals made from fresh, locally grown products while encouraging economic growth and strengthening the agricultural sector of the State.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 100 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Garrett, Kapela, Sayama, Muraoka).

SCRep. 1673 Education on H.C.R. No. 104

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Education to take immediate action to strengthen local farm-to-school initiatives.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; University of Hawai'i at Mānoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience; Climate Future Forum's Regenerative Food Systems Working Group; Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition and Climate Protectors Hawaii; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that Act 175, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021 (Act 175), established a goal for at least thirty percent of school meal ingredients to be sourced locally by 2030. Your Committee further finds that significant barriers continue to hinder progress in meeting the local food procurement goal, including procurement regulations, distribution logistics, and inconsistent farmer-school partnerships. Your Committee believes that immediate action to strengthen local farm-to-school initiatives should be taken by the Department of Education to meet the requirements of Act 175 to ensure that Hawaii's students receive school meals made from fresh, locally grown products while encouraging economic growth and strengthening the agricultural sector of the State.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 104 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Garrett, Kapela, Sayama, Muraoka).

SCRep. 1674 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.R. No. 54

The purpose of this measure is to request the Hawaii State Energy Office to convene a Geothermal Energy Working Group to evaluate the regulatory and policy landscape surrounding geothermal energy in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Public Utilities Commission; Coalition Earth; Life of the Land; Ulu pono Initiative; and seven individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Energy Justice Network; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Hawaii State Energy Office.

Your Committee finds that geothermal energy has the potential to be a critical component of Hawaii's renewable energy portfolio. However, regulatory uncertainty, permitting challenges, and land use restrictions have hindered its development. This measure convenes stakeholders to collaboratively assess the challenges and opportunities for geothermal expansion in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives standing committees with primary subject matter purview over energy to the Working Group;
- (2) Changing the deadline for the report to the Legislature; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 54, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 54, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1675 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.C.R. No. 58

The purpose of this measure is to request the Hawaii State Energy Office to convene a Geothermal Energy Working Group to evaluate the regulatory and policy landscape surrounding geothermal energy in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Public Utilities Commission; Coalition Earth; Life of the Land; Ulu pono Initiative; and seven individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Energy Justice Network; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Hawaii State Energy Office.

Your Committee finds that geothermal energy has the potential to be a critical component of Hawaii's renewable energy portfolio. However, regulatory uncertainty, permitting challenges, and land use restrictions have hindered its development. This measure convenes stakeholders to collaboratively assess the challenges and opportunities for geothermal expansion in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives standing committees with primary subject matter purview over energy to the Working Group;
- (2) Changing the deadline for the report to the Legislature; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 58, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 58, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1676 Public Safety on H.R. No. 62

The purpose of this measure is to request the Office of the State Fire Marshal to convene a Vegetation Management Working Group to study, evaluate, and make recommendations for regulations that define property owner obligations for vegetation management on public and private property to mitigate wildfire risk.

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, the Public Utilities Commission, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260, Hawaiian Electric, Kamehameha Schools, and the Hawaii Forest Industry Association provided testimony in support of this resolution. Your committee received comments from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations on this measure. One individual provided testimony in support.

Your Committee believes that wildfire risks can be mitigated with regulations recommended from the State Fire Marshal's Vegetation Management Working Group that define public and private property owner obligations, but finds that recommendations are also needed to define a line clearance tree trimmer and establish minimum safety standards, training, and qualifications for individuals performing line clearance tree trimming at or near electric utility facilities to prevent hazards. Your committee further finds that the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations is not the appropriate department to be administratively attached to the Office of State Fire Marshal's Vegetation Management Working Group because DLIR lacks the expertise and also because the Legislature is currently deliberating the Office of the State Fire Marshal's permanent, executive placement.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (2) Requesting the Office of State Marshal and the State Fire Council to undertake the recommendations that define a line clearance tree trimmer and establish minimum safety standards, training, and qualifications for individuals performing line clearance tree trimming at or near electric utility facilities.
- (3) Removing "DLIR", "Department of Labor and Industrial Relations", or "Director of Labor and Industrial Relations", and where applicable, adding the language, "whichever department the Office of the State Fire Marshal is administratively attached to".

Your committee further notes the next committee should consider Kamehameha School's oral testimony that pointed out vegetation management is the landowner's and easement holder's responsibility.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 62, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 62, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Hashem, Lamosao, Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 1677 Public Safety on H.C.R. No. 69

The purpose of this measure is to request the Office of the State Fire Marshal to convene a Vegetation Management Working Group to study, evaluate, and make recommendations for regulations that define property owner obligations for vegetation management on public and private property to mitigate wildfire risk.

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, the Public Utilities Commission, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260, Hawaiian Electric, Kamehameha Schools, and the Hawaii Forest Industry Association provided testimony in support of this resolution. Your committee received comments from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations on this measure. One individual provided testimony in support.

Your Committee believes that wildfire risks can be mitigated with regulations recommended from the State Fire Marshal's Vegetation Management Working Group that define public and private property owner obligations, but finds that recommendations are also needed to define a line clearance tree trimmer and establish minimum safety standards, training, and qualifications for individuals performing line clearance tree trimming at or near electric utility facilities to prevent hazards. Your committee further finds that the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations is not the appropriate department to be administratively attached to the Office of State Fire Marshal's Vegetation Management Working Group because DLIR lacks the expertise and also because the Legislature is currently deliberating the Office of the State Fire Marshal's permanent, executive placement.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (2) Requesting the Office of State Marshal and the State Fire Council to undertake the recommendations that define a line clearance tree trimmer and establish minimum safety standards, training, and qualifications for individuals performing line clearance tree trimming at or near electric utility facilities.
- (3) Removing "DLIR", "Department of Labor and Industrial Relations", or "Director of Labor and Industrial Relations", and where applicable, adding the language, "whichever department the Office of the State Fire Marshal is administratively attached to".

Your committee further notes the next committee should consider Kamehameha School's oral testimony that pointed out vegetation management is the landowner's and the easement holder's responsibility.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 69, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 69, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Hashem, Lamosao, Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 1678 Public Safety on H.R. No. 128

The purpose of this measure is to express the House of Representatives' strong support for the construction of a floating drydock at Pearl Harbor, citing the project's impact on national security and economic development.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, the Military Affairs Council, Pacific Shipyards International, and two individuals.

Your Committee recognizes the public's call for greater transparency with the legislative process, specifically when Committee Chairs defer a bill or resolution. While the Vice Chair's initial recommendation was to not pass this resolution; instead of unilaterally deferring it without a vote, she recommended

a Hold, which requires a vote. Before voting, the Vice Chair stated that if her recommendation to hold failed, she would subsequently make the recommendation to pass the resolution.

Your Committee recognizes that in the past, there had been a negative connotation with the practice of recommending a Hold; however, a Hold is the only mechanism available to defer a bill with a vote. The Vice Chair's initial recommendation to Hold the resolution did not have sufficient votes.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee ultimately concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 128 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Water and Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Hashem, Lamosao, Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 1679 Public Safety on H.C.R. No. 133

The purpose of this measure is to illustrate the legislature's strong support for the construction of a floating drydock at Pearl Harbor, citing the project's impact on national security and economic development.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, the Military Affairs Council, Pacific Shipyards International, and two individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 133 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Water and Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Hashem, Lamosao, Morikawa, Woodson).

SCRep. 1680 Human Services & Homelessness on H.R. No. 95

The purpose of this measure is to request the State LGBTQ+ Commission and Commission on the Status of Women to collaborate and conduct a comprehensive review of the Hawaii Revised Statutes and recommend amendments to incorporate gender-neutral terminology.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission and Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women.

Your Committee finds that many existing statutes within state law contain binary, gendered language that does not fully reflect the diverse identities of the State's residents. This measure seeks to address this issue by requesting the Hawaii State LGBTQ+ Commission and Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women to review state laws and recommend updates to incorporate gender-neutral language, ensuring that Hawaii's legal framework reflects the values of respect and aloha for all residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its title to make technical amendments;
- (2) Extending the submission deadline for the report by the Hawaii State LGBTQ+ Commission and Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women to the Legislature to December 31, 2026; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 95, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 95, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 2 (Alcos, Garcia). Excused, 1 (Takenouchi).

SCRep. 1681 Human Services & Homelessness on H.C.R. No. 99

The purpose of this measure is to request the State LGBTQ+ Commission and Commission on the Status of Women to collaborate and conduct a comprehensive review of the Hawaii Revised Statutes and recommend amendments to incorporate gender-neutral terminology.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission and Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women.

Your Committee finds that many existing statutes within state law contain binary, gendered language that does not fully reflect the diverse identities of the State's residents. This measure seeks to address this issue by requesting the Hawaii State LGBTQ+ Commission and Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women to review state laws and recommend updates to incorporate gender-neutral language, ensuring that Hawaii's legal framework reflects the values of respect and aloha for all residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its title to make technical amendments;
- (2) Extending the submission deadline for the report by the Hawaii State LGBTQ+ Commission and Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women to the Legislature to December 31, 2026; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 99, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 99, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 2 (Alcos, Garcia). Excused, 1 (Takenouchi).

SCRep. 1682 Labor on H.R. No. 175

The purpose of this measure is to request the Senate Standing Committee on Labor and Technology and House of Representatives Standing Committee on Labor to convene a legislative working group to develop recommendations for establishing and implementing a paid family and medical leave program for the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women; Hawaii State LGBTQ+ Commission; Executive Office on Aging; Office of Wellness and Resilience; Hawaii County Council-District Two; Hawaii State Teachers Association; Catholic Charities Hawaii; Hawaii Nurses' Association; Democratic Party of Hawaii; AARP Hawaii; Indivisible Hawaii; Holomua Collaborative; Hawaii Public Health Institute; Democratic Party of Hawaii Education Caucus; Imua Alliance; Aloha United Way; Wainiha Country Market Inc; Hawaii Government Employees Association; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; United Public Workers; Pride at Work Hawaii; Hawaii Children's Action Network Speaks; and 33 individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Legislative Reference Bureau; University of Hawaii Professional Assembly; SHRM Hawaii; and the Chamber of Commerce Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that in the face of the current workforce shortage, a paid family and medical leave program would incentivize individuals to join the labor market and improve employee retention, filling gaps and saving employers long-term recruitment and training costs. Your Committee further finds that a state-administered paid family and medical leave program would benefit the State's workforce while reducing the financial burden for employers compared to a privately funded alternative. Your Committee believes this measure is an essential first step towards establishing a viable state-administered paid family and medical leave program, as the working group that would be established by this measure would recommend parameters for establishing and implementing such a program after reviewing any potential legal, logistical, and financial constraints.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

Including the directors of the central personnel agencies of the State, the City and County of Honolulu, the County of Hawaii, the County of Maui, the County of Kauai; the Judiciary; the Department of Education; the University of Hawaii; and the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, or their designees as members of the working group.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 175, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Legislative Management in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 175, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garrett).

SCRep. 1683 Labor on H.C.R. No. 179

The purpose of this measure is to request the Senate Standing Committee on Labor and Technology and House of Representatives Standing Committee on Labor to convene a legislative working group to develop recommendations for establishing and implementing a paid family and medical leave program for the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women; Hawaii State LGBTQ+ Commission; Executive Office on Aging; Office of Wellness and Resilience; Hawaii County Council-District Two; Hawaii State Teachers Association; Catholic Charities Hawaii; Hawaii Nurses' Association; Democratic Party of Hawaii; AARP Hawaii; Indivisible Hawaii; Holomua Collaborative; Hawaii Public Health Institute; Democratic Party of Hawaii Education Caucus; Imua Alliance; Aloha United Way; Wainiha Country Market Inc; Hawaii Government Employees Association; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; United Public Workers; Pride at Work Hawaii; Hawaii Children's Action Network Speaks; and 33 individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Legislative Reference Bureau; University of Hawaii Professional Assembly; SHRM Hawaii; and the Chamber of Commerce Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that in the face of the current workforce shortage, a paid family and medical leave program would incentivize individuals to join the labor market and improve employee retention, filling gaps and saving employers long-term recruitment and training costs. Your Committee further finds that a state-administered paid family and medical leave program would benefit the State's workforce while reducing the financial burden for employers compared to a privately funded alternative. Your Committee believes this measure is an essential first step towards establishing a viable state-administered paid family and medical leave program, as the working group that would be established by this measure would recommend parameters for establishing and implementing such a program after reviewing any potential legal, logistical, and financial constraints.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

Including the directors of the central personnel agencies of the State, the City and County of Honolulu, the County of Hawaii, the County of Maui, the County of Kauai, the Judiciary, the Department of Education, the University of Hawaii, and the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, or their designees as members of the working group.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 179, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Legislative Management in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 179, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garrett).

SCRep. 1684 Labor on H.R. No. 96

The purpose of this measure is to request the State of Hawaii to require that any individual or group that administers the mandatory harassment and discrimination training to employees demonstrate adequate competency in LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and more identities) identity and culturally specific gender identity relevant to Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State LGBTQ+ Commission; Pride at Work Hawaii; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission.

Your Committee finds that existing training programs for state employees across various agencies would benefit from greater consistency in their understanding of LGBTQ+ identities and culturally specific gender identities, such as māhū, and could be enhanced by incorporating best practices for fostering effective and respectful dialogue with colleagues, managers, directors, constituents, clients, and customers from diverse communities, including the LGBTQ+ community. Your Committee believes this measure will improve training programs provided to Hawaii's workforce to better reflect the diversity and cultural contexts within the LGBTQ+ community.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 96 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5; Ayes with Reservations (Reyes Oda). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garrett).

SCRep. 1685 Labor on H.C.R. No. 100

The purpose of this measure is to request the State of Hawaii to require that any individual or group that administers the mandatory harassment and discrimination training to employees demonstrate adequate competency in LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and more identities) identity and culturally specific gender identity relevant to Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State LGBTQ+ Commission; Pride at Work Hawaii; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission.

Your Committee finds that existing training programs for state employees across various agencies would benefit from greater consistency in their understanding of LGBTQ+ identities and culturally specific gender identities, such as māhū, and could be enhanced by incorporating best practices for fostering effective and respectful dialogue with colleagues, managers, directors, constituents, clients, and customers from diverse communities, including the LGBTQ+ community. Your Committee believes this measure will improve training programs provided to Hawaii's workforce to better reflect the diversity and cultural contexts within the LGBTQ+ community.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 100 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5; Ayes with Reservations (Reyes Oda). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garrett).

SCRep. 1686 Water & Land on H.R. No. 58

The purpose of this measure is to request the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to convene a working group to evaluate the establishment and administrative placement of an office of resilience and recovery.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Governor Recovery and Resiliency Unit; Climate Advisory Team; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Honolulu Board of Water Supply; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that as natural disasters increase in frequency and intensity due to climate change, there is an urgent need to strengthen the State's resilience and preparedness for future disasters. Your Committee further finds that establishing a permanent office of resilience and recovery to provide ongoing support and leadership during and in the aftermath of a disaster will significantly improve the coordination and resilience of the State's response to future disasters.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the composition of the working group; and
- (2) Amending the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider incorporating into the budget an appropriation of \$36,000 to program ID BED144 for one temporary exempt Planning Analyst position for six months to support the activities of the working group.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 58, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 58, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1687 Water & Land on H.C.R. No. 64

The purpose of this measure is to request the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to convene a working group to evaluate the establishment and administrative placement of an office of resilience and recovery.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Governor Recovery and Resiliency Unit; Climate Advisory Team; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Honolulu Board of Water Supply; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that as natural disasters increase in frequency and intensity due to climate change, there is an urgent need to strengthen the State's resilience and preparedness for future disasters. Your Committee further finds that establishing a permanent office of resilience and recovery to provide ongoing support and leadership during and in the aftermath of a disaster will significantly improve the coordination and resilience of the State's response to future disasters.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the composition of the working group; and
- (2) Amending the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider incorporating into the budget an appropriation of \$36,000 to program ID BED144 for one temporary exempt Planning Analyst position for six months to support the activities of the working group.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 64, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 64, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1688 Water & Land on H.R. No. 59

The purpose of this measure is to request the Land Use Commission to coordinate with county planning commissions and county councils to conduct concurrent reviews of general plan amendments, district boundary amendments, and zoning amendments when reclassifying land.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development and Land Use Commission.

Your Committee finds that while the Land Use Commission is responsible for classifying all lands in the State, the counties are responsible for overseeing planning and zoning under their respective general plans and zoning ordinances. Your Committee further finds that because of this division of responsibilities, any significant changes in land use require a three-step process that involves the counties making a general plan amendment, the Land Use Commission making a state district boundary amendment, and the counties making a county zoning amendment, with each amendment processed separately and sequentially. Your Committee believes that encouraging the Land Use Commission and counties to coordinate and hold concurrent reviews for these amendments will significantly expedite the land use reclassification and rezoning process while still maintaining the integrity and thoroughness of each review.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 59 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti). Noes, 1 (Iwamoto). Excused, none.

SCRep. 1689 Water & Land on H.C.R. No. 65

The purpose of this measure is to request the Land Use Commission to coordinate with county planning commissions and county councils to conduct concurrent reviews of general plan amendments, district boundary amendments, and zoning amendments when reclassifying land.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development and Land Use Commission.

Your Committee finds that while the Land Use Commission is responsible for classifying all lands in the State, the counties are responsible for overseeing planning and zoning under their respective general plans and zoning ordinances. Your Committee further finds that because of this division of responsibilities, any significant changes in land use require a three-step process that involves the counties making a general plan amendment, the Land Use Commission making a state district boundary amendment, and the counties making a county zoning amendment, with each amendment processed separately and sequentially. Your Committee believes that encouraging the Land Use Commission and counties to coordinate and hold concurrent reviews for these amendments will significantly expedite the land use reclassification and rezoning process while still maintaining the integrity and thoroughness of each review.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 65 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti). Noes, 1 (Iwamoto). Excused, none.

SCRep. 1690 Water & Land on H.R. No. 118

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Land and Natural Resources to establish a collaborative working group to survey, identify, and monitor culturally sensitive shorelines impacted by erosion.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and Hawaii Climate Change and Health Working Group.

Your Committee finds Native Hawaiian iwi kūpuna were historically interred along sandy shoreline areas, which are increasingly threatened by coastal erosion. Your Committee further finds that iwi kūpuna discovered through shoreline erosion are often located above the high-water mark, which makes it difficult to preserve them in place. Your Committee believes that as more of the State's coastline is threatened by coastal erosion, there is a need to develop procedures for the respectful and culturally appropriate treatment of these iwi kūpuna, including surveying, identifying, and monitoring culturally sensitive shorelines impacted by erosion.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the appropriate Island Burial Council is the designated entity responsible for the disposition of inadvertently discovered iwi kūpuna;
- (2) Amending the composition of the working group; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 118, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 118, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Souza). Excused, none.

SCRep. 1691 Water & Land on H.C.R. No. 122

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Land and Natural Resources to establish a collaborative working group to survey, identify, and monitor culturally sensitive shorelines impacted by erosion.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and Hawaii Climate Change and Health Working Group.

Your Committee finds Native Hawaiian iwi kūpuna were historically interred along sandy shoreline areas, which are increasingly threatened by coastal erosion. Your Committee further finds that iwi kūpuna discovered through shoreline erosion are often located above the high-water mark, which makes it difficult to preserve them in place. Your Committee believes that as more of the State's coastline is threatened by coastal erosion, there is a need to develop procedures for the respectful and culturally appropriate treatment of these iwi kūpuna, including surveying, identifying, and monitoring culturally sensitive shorelines impacted by erosion.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the appropriate Island Burial Council is the designated entity responsible for the disposition of inadvertently discovered iwi kūpuna;
- (2) Amending the composition of the working group; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 122, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 122, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Souza). Excused, none.

SCRep. 1692 Water & Land on H.R. No. 185

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Land and Natural Resources to convene a Kailua Bay Advisory Working Group.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i; Kailua Village Business Improvement District; Destination Kona Coast; Kai 'Opua Canoe Club; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that the Kailua-Kona Wharf, commonly referred to as the Kailua Pier, provides significant economic, cultural, and historical benefits to West Hawai'i. Your Committee further finds that persistent vandalism and destruction of public facilities and infrastructure have led to rising maintenance costs, disruptions of public access, and the need for continuous repairs of Kailua Pier by state and county agencies. Your Committee believes that establishing an interjurisdictional approach to address the challenges at Kailua Pier will enhance communication between pier users and government officials, allowing for more effective coordinated oversight and management of Kailua Pier.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the representative of the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions requested to serve on the working group is the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness, or the Coordinator's designee;
- (2) Requesting the working group to submit quarterly reports for two years, rather than three; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 185, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 185, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1693 Water & Land on H.C.R. No. 191

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Land and Natural Resources to convene a Kailua Bay Advisory Working Group.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Kailua Village Business Improvement District; Destination Kona Coast; Kai 'Opua Canoe Club; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that the Kailua-Kona Wharf, commonly referred to as the Kailua Pier, provides significant economic, cultural, and historical benefits to West Hawai'i. Your Committee further finds that persistent vandalism and destruction of public facilities and infrastructure have led to rising maintenance costs, disruptions of public access, and the need for continuous repairs of Kailua Pier by state and county agencies. Your Committee believes that establishing an interjurisdictional approach to address the challenges at Kailua Pier will enhance communication between pier users and government officials, allowing for more effective coordinated oversight and management of Kailua Pier.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the representative of the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions requested to serve on the working group is the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness, or the Coordinator's designee;
- (2) Requesting the working group to submit quarterly reports for two years, rather than three; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 191, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 191, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1694 Water & Land on H.R. No. 186

The purpose of this measure is to request the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to convene a working group to examine and consider the transfer of Native Hawaiian burial site management under chapter 6E, Hawaii Revised Statutes, from the State Historic Preservation Division to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Ohana Unity Party; Pilina Center for Wellbeing; Ko'olaupua Hawaiian Civic Club; Pu'uho'ou o Wailupe; Nohopapa Hawai'i, LLC; Huliauapa'a; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Kahua O Kakou, Hui (Corp) Humu'ula Kala'i'eha LLC; Hui Iwi Kuamo'o; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Malama Kakanilua and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that the State has a statutory duty to provide leadership in the preservation, maintenance, and restoration of historic properties and burial artifacts. Currently, the responsibility for the management of Native Hawaiian burial sites falls under the purview of the appropriate Island Burial Council, which is overseen by the State Historic Preservation Division. However, your Committee finds that the State Historic Preservation Division's broader mission to protect and maintain all historic properties has led to conflicts of interest regarding burial sites and fundamental inadequacies in the laws affecting

burial sites. Your Committee believes that an appropriate first step to address these inadequacies is to consider whether oversight of Native Hawaiian burial sites should be moved out of the State Historic Preservation Division and into the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, whose mission of advancing the betterment of Native Hawaiians may provide a better fit for appropriately carrying out the State's burial law responsibilities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the working group to also consider certain issues and recommend improvements to the process of protecting burial sites and to the effectiveness of the current burial sites program;
- (2) Amending the composition of the working group; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 186, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 186, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1695 Water & Land on H.C.R. No. 193

The purpose of this measure is to request the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to convene a working group to examine and consider the transfer of Native Hawaiian burial site management under chapter 6E, Hawaii Revised Statutes, from the State Historic Preservation Division to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Ohana Unity Party; Pilina Center for Wellbeing; Ko'olauloa Hawaiian Civic Club; Pu'uho'oua o Wailupe; Nohopapa Hawai'i, LLC; Huliauapa'a; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Kahua O Kakou, Hui (Corp) Humu'ula Kala'i'eha LLC; Hui Iwi Kuamo'o; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Malama Kakanilua and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State has a statutory duty to provide leadership in the preservation, maintenance, and restoration of historic properties and burial artifacts. Currently, the responsibility for the management of Native Hawaiian burial sites falls under the purview of the appropriate Island Burial Council, which is overseen by the State Historic Preservation Division. However, your Committee finds that the State Historic Preservation Division's broader mission to protect and maintain all historic properties has led to conflicts of interest regarding burial sites and fundamental inadequacies in the laws affecting burial sites. Your Committee believes that an appropriate first step to address these inadequacies is to consider whether oversight of Native Hawaiian burial sites should be moved out of the State Historic Preservation Division and into the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, whose mission of advancing the betterment of Native Hawaiians may provide a better fit for appropriately carrying out the State's burial law responsibilities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the working group to also consider certain issues and recommend improvements to the process of protecting burial sites and to the effectiveness of the current burial sites program;
- (2) Amending the composition of the working group; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 193, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 193, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1696 Water & Land on H.C.R. No. 184

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Hawai'i Community Development Authority to conduct a study to consider residential, hotel, and other land uses for the Kaka'ako Makai area and to update the Kaka'ako Community Development District Makai Area Master Plan accordingly.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Imanaka Asato; and Hawaii Building & Construction Trades Council. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Friends of Kewalo; Hawaii's Thousand Friends; Kaka'ako Makai Community Planning Advisory Council; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Community Development Authority and Airlines Committee of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the Hawai'i Community Development Authority intends to update the Kaka'ako Community Development District Makai Area Master Plan (Master Plan) in 2025. Your Committee further finds that when the Master Plan was updated in 2023, it did not contemplate residential, hotel, or other uses. Your Committee believes that considering residential, hotel, and other uses when updating the Master Plan is essential to address the State's ongoing affordable housing crisis.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the Hawai'i Community Development Authority to provide an interim report on the results of its study no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2026 and a final report no later than December 31, 2026;
- (2) Amending its title; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 184, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 184, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1697 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.R. No. 184

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Health to convene a Demolition Waste Reduction Working Group.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services; Re-use Hawai'i; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; and Energy Justice Network. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that the State's landfills are nearing capacity and that there is significant community opposition to the expansion of existing facilities or the establishment of new facilities. Your Committee further finds that construction and demolition waste represents one of the largest contributors to solid waste in Hawaii. This measure helps bring together stakeholders and experts to develop solutions to reduce construction and demolition waste and increase deconstruction and reuse practices.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the composition of the Working Group;
- (2) Adding the Chairperson of the Board of Education, Director of Transportation, and President of the University of Hawaii to the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 184, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 184, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1698 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.C.R. No. 190

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Health to convene a Demolition Waste Reduction Working Group.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services; Re-use Hawai'i; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; and Energy Justice Network. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that the State's landfills are nearing capacity and that there is significant community opposition to the expansion of existing facilities or the establishment of new facilities. Your Committee further finds that construction and demolition waste represents one of the largest contributors to solid waste in Hawaii. This measure helps bring together stakeholders and experts to develop solutions to reduce construction and demolition waste and increase deconstruction and reuse practices.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the composition of the Working Group;
- (2) Adding the Chairperson of the Board of Education, Director of Transportation, and President of the University of Hawaii to the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 190, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 190, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1699 Education on H.R. No. 80

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Education to establish an Aloha Civics Working Group to enhance civics education in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; and Common Cause Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the "Aloha Spirit" is a unique cultural attribute of Hawaii, embodying the principles of kindness, unity, humility, patience, and a deep sense of love and respect for others. Your Committee further finds that integrating the Aloha Spirit into civics education can help equip students with the tools to engage in political and social discussions in a manner that promotes unity and mutual understanding.

Your Committee notes that the Department of Education convened the Civic Learning and Engagement Task Force, at the direction of the Board of Education, to provide recommendations to the Board on strengthening and elevating civic learning, and to objectively measure knowledge, skills, and participation. The Civic Learning and Engagement Task Force published its findings and recommendations on March 2024, and which the Department of Education is now using to inform strategic planning and implementation efforts within the Department that will strengthen and elevate civic learning. Your Committee believes it would be more prudent to evaluate the efforts made by the Department of Education to implement the Civic Learning and Engagement Task Force's recommendations.

Your Committee has accordingly amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Department of Education is requested to prepare and submit a report to the Legislature on the implementation of aloha-based civic education initiatives in Hawaii's public schools, based on the recommendations made by the Department's Civic Learning and Engagement Task Force, rather than requesting the Department to establish an Aloha Civics Working Group;
- (2) Amending the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure;
- (3) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 80, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 80, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Garrett, Kapela, Sayama, Muraoka).

SCRep. 1700 Education on H.C.R. No. 86

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Education to establish an Aloha Civics Working Group to enhance civics education in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; and Common Cause Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that the "Aloha Spirit" is a unique cultural attribute of Hawaii, embodying the principles of kindness, unity, humility, patience, and a deep sense of love and respect for others. Your Committee further finds that integrating the Aloha Spirit into civics education can help equip students with the tools to engage in political and social discussions in a manner that promotes unity and mutual understanding.

Your Committee notes that the Department of Education convened the Civic Learning and Engagement Task Force, at the direction of the Board of Education, to provide recommendations to the Board on strengthening and elevating civic learning, and to objectively measure knowledge, skills, and participation. The Civic Learning and Engagement Task Force published its findings and recommendations on March 2024, and which the Department of Education is now using to inform strategic planning and implementation efforts within the Department that will strengthen and elevate civic learning. Your Committee believes it would be more prudent to evaluate the efforts made by the Department of Education to implement the Civic Learning and Engagement Task Force's recommendations.

Your Committee has accordingly amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Department of Education is requested to prepare and submit a report to the Legislature on the implementation of aloha-based civic education initiatives in Hawaii's public schools, based on the recommendations made by the Department's Civic Learning and Engagement Task Force, rather than requesting the Department to establish an Aloha Civics Working Group;
- (2) Amending the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure;
- (3) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 86, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 86, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Garrett, Kapela, Sayama, Muraoka).

SCRep. 1701 Water & Land on H.R. No. 35

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Land and Natural Resources and other state agencies to work with committed community groups to co-steward community forests located on public lands for the betterment of the State's forests and communities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Hawaii Climate Change and Health Working Group; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that trees and forests provide extensive environmental, cultural, and economic benefits. Your Committee further finds that active community collaboration and involvement play an important role in the effective management of the State's forests. Establishing a co-stewardship between the State and local communities for the management of community forests will greatly improve and benefit the State's communities and forests and aligns with the State's mission to responsibly manage and protect Hawaii's natural and cultural resources.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 35 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1702 Water & Land on H.C.R. No. 40

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Land and Natural Resources and other state agencies to work with committed community groups to co-steward community forests located on public lands for the betterment of the State's forests and communities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Hawaii Climate Change and Health Working Group; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that trees and forests provide extensive environmental, cultural, and economic benefits. Your Committee further finds that active community collaboration and involvement play an important role in the effective management of the State's forests. Establishing a co-stewardship between the State and local communities for the management of community forests will greatly improve and benefit the State's communities and forests and aligns with the State's mission to responsibly manage and protect Hawaii's natural and cultural resources.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 40 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1703 Economic Development & Technology on H.R. No. 201

The purpose of this measure is to request the State of Hawaii to consider import substitution as a key strategy for economic growth and diversification.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Technology Development Authority. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's dependence on imported goods creates economic vulnerability and reliance on external markets. Your Committee further finds that import substitution strategies, as utilized by Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and other countries, serve as clear examples for how to decrease reliance

on external markets while improving domestic industries and production. This measure ensures that the State considers import substitution in its efforts to diversify the economy and spur economic growth.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding a definition for import substitution;
- (2) Urging the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation and other agencies to take steps to avoid and prevent new import dependencies, such as dependencies on fossil fuels like liquid natural gas, and leverage monopsony powers to substitute existing imports;
- (3) Adding the Chair of the Public Utilities Commission and Chief Energy Officer of the Hawai'i State Energy Office to the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure;
- (4) Changing its title to make technical amendments; and
- (5) Making other technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 201, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 201, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Todd).

SCRep. 1704 Economic Development & Technology on H.C.R. No. 209

The purpose of this measure is to request the State of Hawaii to consider import substitution as a key strategy for economic growth and diversification.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Technology Development Authority. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's dependence on imported goods creates economic vulnerability and reliance on external markets. Your Committee further finds that import substitution strategies, as utilized by Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and other countries, serve as clear examples for how to decrease reliance on external markets while improving domestic industries and production. This measure ensures that the State considers import substitution in its efforts to diversify the economy and spur economic growth.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding a definition for import substitution;
- (2) Urging the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation and other agencies to take steps to avoid and prevent new import dependencies, such as dependencies on fossil fuels like liquid natural gas, and leverage monopsony powers to substitute existing imports;
- (3) Adding the Chair of the Public Utilities Commission and Chief Energy Officer of the Hawai'i State Energy Office to the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure;
- (4) Changing its title to make technical amendments; and
- (5) Making other technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 209, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 209, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Todd).

SCRep. 1705 Transportation on H.R. No. 48

The purpose of this measure is to urge the City and County of Honolulu to work with stakeholders to construct a sidewalk for pedestrian safety while traveling between Iroquois Point and Ewa Beach.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from three individuals.

Your Committee finds that pedestrian safety between Iroquois Point and Ewa Beach is a critical concern due to inadequate infrastructure, including poor lighting, overgrown vegetation, and the absence of sidewalks. These conditions pose significant risks to pedestrians, particularly in an area where many community stakeholders desire to improve the safety and walkability of the neighborhood. This measure will enhance pedestrian safety and prevent potential accidents in these areas.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 48 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1706 Transportation on H.C.R. No. 52

The purpose of this measure is to urge the City and County of Honolulu to work with stakeholders to construct a sidewalk for pedestrian safety while traveling between Iroquois Point and Ewa Beach.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from three individuals.

Your Committee finds that pedestrian safety between Iroquois Point and Ewa Beach is a critical concern due to inadequate infrastructure, including poor lighting, overgrown vegetation, and the absence of sidewalks. These conditions pose significant risks to pedestrians, particularly in an area where many community stakeholders desire to improve the safety and walkability of the neighborhood. This measure will enhance pedestrian safety and prevent potential accidents in these areas.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 52 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1707 Transportation on H.R. No. 53

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Transportation services of the City and County of Honolulu to conduct a traffic mitigation and calming study to evaluate the effectiveness of certain traffic mitigation and calming devices in and around Paiwa Street in Waipahu, Oahu.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that Paiwa Street in Waipahu experiences high traffic volume and excessive speeding, creating safety risks for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists. Traffic mitigation measures such as speed bumps, raised crosswalks, and improved signaling have proven effective in reducing accidents and improving road safety in other areas throughout the State. This measure will ensure the safety of residents by studying the effectiveness of implementing traffic mitigation and calming devices around Paiwa Street.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 53 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1708 Transportation on H.C.R. No. 57

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Transportation services of the City and County of Honolulu to conduct a traffic mitigation and calming study to evaluate the effectiveness of certain traffic mitigation and calming devices in and around Paiwa Street in Waipahu, Oahu.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from three individuals.

Your Committee finds that Paiwa Street in Waipahu experiences high traffic volume and excessive speeding, creating safety risks for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists. Traffic mitigation measures such as speed bumps, raised crosswalks, and improved signaling have proven effective in reducing accidents and improving road safety in other areas throughout the State. This measure will ensure the safety of residents by studying the effectiveness of implementing traffic mitigation and calming devices around Paiwa Street.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 57 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1709 Transportation on H.R. No. 173

The purpose of this measure is to encourage the City and County of Honolulu to initiate a Summer Streets Pilot Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Bicycling League and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that streets and public spaces can serve multiple purposes beyond vehicle transportation, creating opportunities for recreation, active mobility, and community engagement. Summer streets programs have been successfully implemented worldwide, promoting public participation, supporting local businesses, and advancing environmental sustainability by encouraging alternatives to car-centric transportation. This measure aims to enhance public spaces and promote community well-being through the establishment of a Summer Streets Pilot Program in the City and County of Honolulu.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 173 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1710 Transportation on H.C.R. No. 177

The purpose of this measure is to encourage the City and County of Honolulu to initiate a Summer Streets Pilot Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Bicycling League and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that streets and public spaces can serve multiple purposes beyond vehicle transportation, creating opportunities for recreation, active mobility, and community engagement. Summer streets programs have been successfully implemented worldwide, promoting public participation, supporting local businesses, and advancing environmental sustainability by encouraging alternatives to car-centric transportation. This measure aims to enhance public spaces and promote community well-being through the establishment of a Summer Streets Pilot Program in the City and County of Honolulu.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 177 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1711 Transportation on H.R. No. 108

The purpose of this measure is to strongly urge the Honolulu City Council to adopt a "pedestrian first" policy via ordinance.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Hawai'i Bicycling League; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that walking is the most fundamental mode of transportation, and streets should be designed to prioritize pedestrian safety and accessibility. Data from the City and County of Honolulu shows that a small percentage of streets account for a disproportionate number of pedestrian fatalities and injuries, highlighting the urgent need for targeted improvements. This measure aims to ensure safer and more walkable communities through the adoption of a pedestrian first policy in the City and County of Honolulu.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 108 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1712 Transportation on H.C.R. No. 112

The purpose of this measure is to strongly urge the Honolulu City Council to adopt a "pedestrian first" policy via ordinance.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Hawai'i Bicycling League; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that walking is the most fundamental mode of transportation, and streets should be designed to prioritize pedestrian safety and accessibility. Data from the City and County of Honolulu shows that a small percentage of streets account for a disproportionate number of pedestrian fatalities and injuries, highlighting the urgent need for targeted improvements. This measure aims to ensure safer and more walkable communities through the adoption of a pedestrian first policy in the City and County of Honolulu.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 112 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1713 Transportation on H.R. No. 130

The purpose of this measure is to urge the City and County of Honolulu to implement regulations requiring pedestrians to wear reflective gear between the hours of dusk and dawn.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Get Fit Kauai; Hawai'i Bicycling League; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu; and Life of the Land.

Your Committee finds that the City and County of Honolulu has experienced a rise in motor vehicle collisions involving pedestrians, with a notable increase in incidents occurring during low-visibility hours between dusk and dawn. Research has shown that wearing reflective gear significantly enhances pedestrian visibility, giving drivers more time to react and prevent accidents. However, your Committee does not want to put the onus on pedestrians alone to ensure that drivers are paying attention.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Urging the City and County of Honolulu to encourage, rather than require, pedestrians to wear reflective gear;
- (2) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 130, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 130, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (La Chica). Noes, 1 (Evslin). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1714 Transportation on H.C.R. No. 136

The purpose of this measure is to urge the City and County of Honolulu to implement regulations requiring pedestrians to wear reflective gear between the hours of dusk and dawn.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Get Fit Kauai; Hawai'i Bicycling League; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu; and Life of the Land.

Your Committee finds that the City and County of Honolulu has experienced a rise in motor vehicle collisions involving pedestrians, with a notable increase in incidents occurring during low-visibility hours between dusk and dawn. Research has shown that wearing reflective gear significantly enhances pedestrian visibility, giving drivers more time to react and prevent accidents. However, your Committee does not want to put the onus on pedestrians alone to ensure that drivers are paying attention.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Urging the City and County of Honolulu to encourage, rather than require, pedestrians to wear reflective gear;
- (2) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 136, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 136, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (La Chica). Noes, 1 (Evslin). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1715 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 1291

The purpose of this measure is to establish an alternative pathway to licensure for certified public accountant license applicants by permitting applicants to demonstrate completion of:

- (1) No less than an additional thirty semester hours of study; or
- (2) An additional twelve months of professional experience in the practice of public accountancy only.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Board of Public Accountancy; Hong Consulting, LLC; Hawaii Society of Certified Public Accountants; Chantal Mentzer Inc.; Hawaii Association of Public Accountants; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that there is an increasing need for well-qualified certified public accountants in the State and nationwide as business and commerce continue to grow more complicated. However, there is a declining percentage of students in accounting courses that pursue certified public accountant licenses. This is in part due to the extensive educational requirements beyond a bachelor's degree for licensure, which require further time and money and can serve as a barrier for many potential candidates for licensure. This measure opens an alternative pathway for a certified public accountant license by authorizing the completion of qualifying professional experience in the practice of accountancy in lieu of post-baccalaureate coursework.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1291, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ichiyama).

SCRep. 1716 Water & Land on H.R. No. 124

The purpose of this measure is to reaffirm the State's obligation to uphold the constitutional rights of its people by recognizing the critical role of freshwater in maintaining healthy nearshore marine ecosystems.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition; Kūpeke Ahupua'a; Ka Pa'akai Consulting; Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that the State's nearshore ecosystems provide significant economic, environmental, and recreational benefits. Your Committee further finds that freshwater from streams and groundwater that discharges into the ocean play a vital role in the health of the State's nearshore marine ecosystems and are critical to the health and abundance of native limu, which provides key ecological functions and serves as the base on which fisheries and traditional and customary Native Hawaiian practices rely. This measure affirms the State's obligations to the people of Hawaii by recognizing the importance of freshwater to marine ecosystems to the State's nearshore marine ecosystems and encourages state and county departments and agencies to prioritize the protection and restoration of freshwater flows to nearshore marine ecosystems.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 124, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 124, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1717 Water & Land on H.C.R. No. 128

The purpose of this measure is to reaffirm the State's obligation to uphold the constitutional rights of its people by recognizing the critical role of freshwater in maintaining healthy nearshore marine ecosystems.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition; Kūpeke Ahupua'a; Ka Pa'akai Consulting; Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that the State's nearshore ecosystems provide significant economic, environmental, and recreational benefits. Your Committee further finds that freshwater from streams and groundwater that discharges into the ocean play a vital role in the health of the State's nearshore marine ecosystems and are critical to the health and abundance of native limu, which provides key ecological functions and serves as the base on which fisheries and traditional and customary Native Hawaiian practices rely. This measure affirms the State's obligations to the people of Hawaii by recognizing the importance of freshwater to marine ecosystems to the State's nearshore marine ecosystems and encourages state and county departments and agencies to prioritize the protection and restoration of freshwater flows to nearshore marine ecosystems.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 128, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 128, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1718 Water & Land on H.C.R. No. 197

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Land and Natural Resources to convene a working group to clarify the purpose of the Commission on Water Resource Management and determine whether the leadership and composition of the Commission should be amended.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that the Commission on Water Resource Management (Commission) plays a crucial role in overseeing and managing the State's water resources. Your Committee further finds that in 1994, the Review Commission on the State Water Code submitted recommendations that proposed changes to the Commission's legal and organizational framework and proposed a follow-up review to take place ten years after the adoption of its recommendations; however, the recommended follow-up review was not conducted. Given the urgent need to protect and properly steward the State's water resources, your Committee believes that a review of the Commission's purpose and its leadership structure and board composition is warranted to ensure effective and efficient water resource management.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 197 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1719 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.R. No. 181

The purpose of this measure is to request the Governor, state agencies, and other relevant stakeholders to accelerate Hawaii's clean energy transition and take immediate, decisive action to reduce and eliminate dependence on imported fossil fuels to improve energy security and protect consumers from rising energy costs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Energy Office; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Coalition Earth; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and Public Utilities Commission.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii has the highest electricity rates in the country, largely due to its reliance on imported fossil fuels. Your Committee further finds that the State's dependence on fossil fuels makes it susceptible to fuel price volatility, supply chain disruptions, and geopolitical instability. This measure encourages the State to expedite the adoption of clean energy and eliminate reliance on imported fossil fuels.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 181 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Ward).

SCRep. 1720 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 176

The purpose of this measure is to allow certain ballots to be included in the initial tabulation and increase the qualifying criteria for an automatic election recount to equal to or less than one hundred votes or one-half of one percent, rather than one-quarter of one percent of the total number of votes cast.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaii Patriot Republicans; Aloha Freedom Coalition; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Elections.

Your Committee finds that this measure clarifies which ballots are included in the initial tabulation for automatic election recounts, ensuring a more transparent and comprehensive recount process.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

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 S.B. No. 176, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 176, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Cochran, Hashem, Kahaloa, Garcia).

SCRep. 1721 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 284

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of the Attorney General to provide a written memorandum recommending approval or disapproval of an order authorizing or approving the interception of a wire, oral, or electronic communication to the prosecuting attorney within twenty-four hours of the prosecuting attorney's request to the Department; and
- (2) Establish a process for emergency applications for emergency orders authorizing or approving the interception of wire, oral, or electronic communications.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that this measure would expedite the application process for intercepting communications in emergencies, ensuring timely responses to prevent death or injury while maintaining legal oversight.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 284, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 284, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Garcia).

SCRep. 1722 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 405

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow neighborhood boards to discuss and receive information from third-party reports by any government official not included in a publicly noticed agenda; and
- (2) Require boards to make decisions on matters raised by third-party reports from any government official at a later meeting where the agenda gives notice of decision-making on the matter.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Waikiki Neighborhood Board and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Information Practices.

Your Committee finds that this measure would give neighborhood boards greater flexibility to accept and discuss third-party reports from government officials without violating Sunshine Law requirements for prior public notice.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

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 S.B. No. 405, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 405, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Todd, Garcia).

SCRep. 1723 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 544

The purpose of this measure is to allow courts to depart from mandatory minimum and sentencing enhancements when sentencing minor defendants if the court believes the reduction is warranted given certain factors.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Office of the Public Defender; Human Rights for Kids; Rights4Girls; ACLU of Hawai'i; Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i Kawai'oa; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that children differ from adults in cognitive development, decision-making, and susceptibility to external influences, which must be considered when sentencing minors convicted of adult crimes. Research shows that many minors in the criminal justice system have experienced significant trauma, abuse, or adverse childhood experiences, impacting their behavior and rehabilitation potential. This measure would allow the courts to account for the unique psychological and developmental differences between children and adults when sentencing minors for adult crimes and to depart from mandatory minimums and sentencing enhancements if the reduction is warranted based on specific factors, recognizing the impact of childhood trauma and circumstances on juvenile offenders.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 544, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 544, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Garcia).

SCRep. 1724 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 691

The purpose of this measure is to establish a minimum age of twelve before a child may be adjudicated for any alleged or attempted violation of law.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Human Rights for Kids; National Youth Justice Network; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds the United States remains the only country without a fully established minimum age for juvenile delinquency adjudication, placing young children at risk of involvement in the criminal justice system despite their limited cognitive development and understanding of legal proceedings. Research indicates that children under the age of twelve lack the intellectual maturity to form criminal intent, but still require appropriate services and interventions when engaging in harmful behavior. This measure would ensure that such young children are not subjected to legal proceedings.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Limiting the scope of the petition alleging violation of attempted violation of any federal, state, or local law or county ordinance so that the Family Court retains the ability to exercise jurisdiction over children with issues of school nonattendance or behavioral concerns; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 691, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 691, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Garcia).

SCRep. 1725 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 869

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Define "community outreach board" to mean a board established to serve in a community advisory capacity under a county commission or a county department;
- (2) Include community outreach boards in existing provisions of the Sunshine Law that relate to neighborhood boards; and
- (3) Authorize neighborhood board and community outreach board members to attend meetings or presentations related to official board business statewide.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Kona Community Development Plan Action Committee; Ka'ū Community Development Plan Action Committee; South Kohala Community Development Plan Action Committee; and six individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Information Practices.

Your Committee finds that boards created for community outreach, like the Hawaii County Community Development Plan Action Committees, act as intermediaries between residents and government leaders to address local concerns, share information, and collaborate on solutions. However, these boards are not specific to one neighborhood, making it unclear whether they qualify as "neighborhood boards" under the special provisions of Hawaii's Sunshine Law. Your Committee believes that ensuring open access to these community outreach boards is crucial for fostering thriving communities across the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending its purpose section;
- (2) Changing its effective date to upon approval; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 869, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 869, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Todd, Garcia).

SCRep. 1726 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1030

The purpose of this measure is to specify that the practice of election fraud intimidation includes carrying any unconcealed firearm or dangerous instrument at or within two hundred feet of a voter service center, place of deposit, or polling place.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Pride at Work - Hawai'i; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; and nine individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaii Patriot Republicans and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that this measure safeguards the electoral process for all voters by enhancing protections against election fraud and voter intimidation, particularly by prohibiting the unconcealed carry of dangerous instruments near voting sites.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1030, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1030, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1727 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1337

The purpose of this measure is to clarify requirements to establish quorum to do business and validate acts of the Stadium Authority.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and Stadium Authority.

Your Committee finds that existing law regarding quorum requirements for the Stadium Authority is unclear and difficult to obtain due to vacancies and non-voting memberships. This measure clarifies quorum requirements so that the Authority may conduct official business in a timely and efficient manner.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to upon approval; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1337, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1337, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1728 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1467

The purpose of this measure is to clarify that a notice of appeal relating to an appeal of a county tax is not required to be served on the Director of Taxation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Taxation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the ambiguity of existing law regarding tax appeals for small claims causes the Director of Taxation to be regularly served with notices of appeal for county taxes, even when the Director is not a party to the appeal. This measure would clarify the service requirements for county tax appeals, eliminating unnecessary involvement of the Department of Taxation and reducing costs for taxpayers and administrative processing.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1467, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1467, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Garcia).

SCRep. 1729 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 292

The purpose of this measure is to establish safe harbor protections for survivors of sexual exploitation who seek medical or law enforcement assistance.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu; Tagnawa; Imua Alliance; Ohana Unity Party; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that sex trafficking remains a serious issue in the State. However, criminalizing survivors only deepens their suffering, creating barriers to seeking help and perpetuating stigma. This measure establishes safe harbor protections to ensure that survivors can access medical care, law enforcement assistance, and support services without the threat of prosecution.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

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 S.B. No. 292, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 292, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 1730 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 295

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the penalties imposed on individuals convicted for violations of temporary restraining orders and orders for protection;
- (2) Clarify that the court shall not sentence a defendant to pay a fine for violating a domestic abuse protective order if the court makes an on-the-record determination that the defendant is or will be unable to pay the fine;
- (3) Specify that a conviction for violation of a temporary restraining order issued under the same judicial case number as an order for protection shall be treated as a second or subsequent violation of an order for protection; and
- (4) Authorize the court to suspend certain jail sentences for violations of domestic abuse protective orders if the defendant meets certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women; Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Hawai'i; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu; Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Domestic Violence Action Center; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Theresa's Pu'uwai Legacy; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender and one individual.

Your Committee finds that protective orders play a crucial role in shielding individuals from domestic abuse, yet repeated violations undermine their effectiveness and put victims in danger. To ensure these orders serve their intended purpose, stronger enforcement measures are necessary. This measure enhances accountability by imposing stricter penalties for violations, clarifying how repeat offenses are treated, and allowing courts to assess a defendant's financial capacity when imposing fines.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that any conviction for violation of a temporary restraining order issued under the same judicial case number as an order for protection shall be treated as a prior violation of an order for protection; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 295, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 295, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 1731 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 423

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Add the Director of the Hawaii Head Start State Collaboration Office as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the Early Learning Board;
- (2) Require the Early Learning Board to invite the President of the Head Start Association of Hawaii, or the President's designee, to serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the Board; and
- (3) Require the Early Learning Board to invite a representative of local providers of early childhood education and development services to serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member if no voting member fulfills that role.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Early Learning Board; Executive Office on Early Learning; and Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!.

Your Committee finds that the federal Head Start Act mandates each state to establish a State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care, which in Hawaii is the Early Learning Board. To comply with federal requirements, the Early Learning Board must include representation from Head Start programs operating in Hawaii. This measure updates state law by adding the Head Start State Collaboration Office Director as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the Early Learning Board and inviting the President of the Head Start Association of Hawaii, or the President's designee, to serve on the Board in a nonvoting capacity.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have required the Early Learning Board to invite a representative of local providers of early childhood education and development services to serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member if no voting member fulfills that role;
- (2) Requiring one voting member of the Early Learning Board to have experience as a local provider of early childhood education and development services; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 423, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 423, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1732 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 951

The purpose of this measure is to require:

- (1) Mandatory reports of child abuse or neglect to include the military status of the child's parent or guardian, if known; and
- (2) The Department of Human Services to inform the appropriate authority of the United States military when, upon receiving a report of child abuse or neglect, there is sufficient information to determine that the report involves a military family.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the United States Department of Defense, Ohana Unity Party, and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that while the United States Department of Defense mandates its personnel to report suspected child abuse or neglect to military and local authorities, no equivalent requirement exists for the Department of Human Services' Child Welfare Services Branch to notify military officials when service members' families are involved. This measure seeks to close that communication gap by strengthening coordination between state agencies and military support systems, ensuring affected children receive timely assistance and protection.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 951, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 951, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 1733 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1296

The purpose of this measure is to exempt reconstruction of any lawfully constructed structure that was damaged or destroyed in a disaster proclaimed by the Governor to constitute a state of emergency or a disaster declared pursuant to federal law from the requirements of a special management area minor permit or a special management area use permit under certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; Maui Hotel & Lodging Association; ABC Stores; Ola Maui; Kohalā Brewery; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Lahaina Town Action Committee; Front Street Recovery Organization; Pacific Rim Land Inc.; Miyaki Family Partnership; Lāhainā Strong; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Grassroot Institute of Hawaii and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that facilitating disaster recovery while upholding coastal resource protections is critical for Hawaii's long-term resilience and economic stability. The devastation caused by the 2023 Maui wildfires underscores the need for deliberate and efficient rebuilding efforts that balance community needs with environmental stewardship. By exempting the reconstruction of lawfully constructed structures destroyed in declared disasters from certain permitting requirements, this measure accelerates recovery while ensuring that redevelopment aligns with sustainable planning principles.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that limited the exemption from the requirements for special management area permits for the rebuilding of structures damaged or destroyed in a disaster proclaimed to constitute a state of emergency by the Governor or declared a disaster pursuant to federal law to structures that were not situated on a shoreline parcel or a parcel impacted by waves, storm surges, high tide, or shoreline erosion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1296, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1296, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Poepoe, Belatti, Perruso, Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 1734 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1388

The purpose of this measure is to add the Superintendent of Education and the Chairperson of the Board of Education, or their designees, to the School Facilities Authority Board, as ex officio, nonvoting members.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Board of Education and Department of Education. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the School Facilities Authority.

Your Committee finds that while the School Facilities Authority is responsible for overseeing the development and construction of public school facilities throughout Hawaii, the Department of Education plays a crucial role in ensuring that these projects align with the needs of students, educators, and school operations. Additionally, the Board of Education provides policy oversight for the Department. This measure enhances coordination by adding two nonvoting members, one from the Department of Education and one from the Board of Education, to the School Facilities Authority Board, fostering stronger collaboration, accountability, and alignment between school facilities planning and the State's broader educational priorities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1388, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1388, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1735 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1413

The purpose of this measure is to provide the Hawaii Public Housing Authority with greater ability to dispose of abandoned or seized property in and around federal public housing projects.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

Your Committee finds that the efficient management of abandoned or seized property within federal public housing projects is essential for maintaining safe and habitable living environments. The accumulation of abandoned items can create safety hazards, reduce available space, and impose administrative burdens on housing authorities. By establishing clear procedures for notification, public auction, and disposal of such property, this measure ensures an orderly and transparent process while allowing for the recovery of costs associated with storage and disposal.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the Hawaii Public Housing Authority's powers to sell, donate, or otherwise dispose of property abandoned or seized in or around any federal public housing project; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1413, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1413, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 1736 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1051

The purpose of this measure is to designate the month of September as Hawaiian History Month.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Queen Emma Hawaiian Civic Club; Hawai'i Pono'i Foundation; Papa Ola Lōkahi; Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs; Ohana Unity Party; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies.

Your Committee finds that the month of September holds deep cultural significance as a time to honor Queen Lili'uokalani's legacy through various community gatherings, including those organized by Kawaiaha'o Church, the Lili'uokalani Trust, and Kamehameha Schools. Establishing September as Hawaiian History Month would create a dedicated time for cultural recognition, educational initiatives, and community engagement centered on the State's unique heritage, ensuring greater awareness of Hawaii's history and the legacy of its last reigning monarch.

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 S.B. No. 1051, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 1737 Public Safety on H.R. No. 90

The purpose of this measure is to honor service members who have been injured or killed in military service to the United States and received a Purple Heart, with a special state day designation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from two individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 90 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1738 Public Safety on H.C.R. No. 94

The purpose of this measure is to honor service members who have been injured or killed in military service to the United States and received a Purple Heart, with a special state day designation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from two individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 94 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1739 Public Safety on H.R. No. 197

The purpose of this measure is to catalyze follow-through on a desperately needed replacement of the Kulanihakoī Bridge, which was first constructed in 1911. The replacement process has been held up since 2018 when initial work on it was started.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 197 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1740 Public Safety on H.C.R. No. 205

The purpose of this measure is to catalyze follow-through on a desperately needed replacement of the Kulanihakoī Bridge, which was first constructed in 1911. The replacement process has been held up since 2018 when initial work on it was started.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 205 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1741 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 1369

The purpose of this measure is to change the filing dates of quarterly net solvency reports for mutual benefit societies, health maintenance organizations, and dental insurers so that the fourth quarter filing deadline falls on March 1 of the next year.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committee finds that, under existing law, fourth quarter net solvency reports for mutual benefit societies, health maintenance organizations, and dental insurers are due on February 14. However, the annual blank filings for these entities are due on March 1. By aligning the due dates for the fourth quarter net solvency reports with the due date for the annual blank filings, this measure reduces the compliance burden for these entities and allows them to complete their filings in a more efficient manner, and also helps streamline regulation for the Insurance Division of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to October 1, 2025; and

(2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1369, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1369, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1742 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 752

The purpose of this measure is to increase, beginning January 1, 2026, the notice period for an insurer to notify a policyholder of a cancellation or nonrenewal of an insurance policy.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Insurers Council. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company; American Property Casualty Insurance Association; and Liberty Mutual Insurance.

Your Committee finds that, under existing law, insurers are allowed to cancel a policy upon a ten-day notice. However, due to the precarious environment of property insurance in the State, this period of notice is inadequate to provide policyholders with sufficient time to obtain replacement insurance coverage. Extending the notice period for the cancellation of insurance policies will therefore promote transparency and enable consumers to make informed decision regarding property insurance.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Limiting the provisions of this measure to policies of insurance on property used for residential purposes, including multi-family residential purposes;
- (2) Changing the period of written notice for cancellations to twenty days, rather than thirty days;
- (3) Specifying that in the cancellation of a policy due to nonpayment of premium or material representation, the property insurer must give notice no fewer than ten days before the effective date of the cancellation;
- (4) Changing the period of written notice for the nonrenewal of a policy to thirty days, rather than sixty days;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 752, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 752, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, none.

SCRep. 1743 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 140

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the importation of firewood into the State from another state and the intrastate transportation or sale of firewood not harvested within the State unless the firewood is heat-treated or the importation, transportation, or sale is authorized by the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species; Ohana Unity Party; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's unique geographic isolation results in one of the most biologically diverse regions on the planet. Hawaii's endemic plant and animal species are already under threat from invasive pests and diseases, which pose serious risks to the delicate balance of the State's ecosystems. Your Committee further finds that the movement of untreated firewood remains an unregulated, high-risk pathway for invasive forest pests. This measure addresses a gap in the State's attempts to bolster its biosecurity efforts by requiring firewood to be heat treated.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 140, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1744 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 1402

The purpose of this measure is to exempt government-owned or government-sponsored vessels, training vessels, and fishing vessels from the requirement that the securing of mooring lines be performed by labor subject to collective bargaining.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the General Contractors Association of Hawaii and Hawaii Longline Association. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Capt Andy's Sailing Adventures.

Your Committee finds that Act 236, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024 (Act 236), requires the securing of mooring lines from vessels to commercial docks, wharves, piers, quays, and landings to be performed by labor subject to collective bargaining. The intent of Act 236 was to promote harbor safety by ensuring skilled workers handle harbor operations. However, your Committee further finds that it was not the intent of Act 236 to subject smaller vessels to its requirements. This measure exempts therefore various vessels from the requirements of Act 236.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Exempting tour boats from the requirement that the securing of mooring lines be performed by labor subject to collective bargaining; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1402, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1402, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ichiyama).

SCRep. 1745 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 1449

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require any utilization review entity in the State to submit data relating to prior authorization of health care services to the State Health Planning and Development Agency; and
- (2) Establish the Health Care Appropriateness and Necessity Working Group within the State Health Planning and Development Agency to make recommendations to improve and expedite the prior authorization process.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Health Planning and Development Agency; Hawaii Radiological Society; Hawaii Medical Association; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Association of Health Plans; Hawaii Medical Service Association; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that prior authorization is a health plan cost control process that requires physicians, other health care professionals, and hospitals to obtain advance approval from a health plan before a specific service is provided to a patient to qualify for payment or coverage. Your Committee further finds that prior authorization imposes unnecessary delays in treatment. Health care providers struggle to overcome prior authorization barriers that impede the evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment of their patients and divert valuable time and resources from direct patient care. This leads to lower rates of patient adherence to treatment and harmful negative clinical outcomes.

Your Committee further finds that the disclosure and reporting of relevant payor utilization data for prior authorization is imperative to meaningfully analyze challenges and ensure patients are able to make informed health plan choices. This measure therefore provides transparency on the practice of prior utilization in the State and provides a mechanism to further improve the practice through data.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Including laboratory and diagnostic tests as part of the Health Care Appropriateness and Necessity Working Group's assessment of whether requiring prior authorization is appropriate;
- (2) Specifying that the first report due from the Working Group is before the Regular Session of 2026; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1449, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1449, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ichiyama).

SCRep. 1746 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 1438

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit home health care agencies from providing services outside the scope of their facility license.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Libertarian Party of Hawaii and one individual.

Your Committee finds that home care agencies are entities that provide personal care services, homemaker services, and respite care to clients in their homes. These agencies provide essential services to individuals who require assistance with daily living activities, allowing individuals to remain in their homes while receiving necessary care. However, your Committee further finds that some home care agencies are providing nursing services, which require specialized training, that are rendered by individuals who are not licensed under state law to engage in the practice of nursing. To bolster the State's ability to protect patient safety, this measure clarifies the scope of the home care agency license and authorizes the Department of Health to take enforcement action against home care agencies that are providing services outside of the scope of their license.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1438, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1438, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, 1 (Ichiyama).

SCRep. 1747 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 385

The purpose of this measure is to require condominium associations to provide copies of their governing documents to owners or their authorized agents, upon request, in print or electronic form at no cost.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Palehua Townhouse Association; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Mortgage Bankers Association of Hawaii; and eight individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaii First Realty and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Honolulu Tower AOA and seven individuals.

Your Committee finds that the existing condominium law is based upon the principles of self-governance, owner enforcement, alternative dispute resolution, and limited government intervention. Your Committee further finds that the capacity of condominium owners to effectively govern themselves and enforce the covenants, conditions, and restrictions of their condominiums is dependent upon the owners' access to the governing documents. Existing law already authorizes access to governing documents at a reasonable fee. This measure further opens access to those essential documents by making access free.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring electronic copies of the condominium association's governing documents, rather than both paper and electronic copies, to be provided at no cost upon request of the unit owner or the unit owner's authorized agent;
- (2) Clarifying that the access to governing documents includes when the documents are restated, as well as amended;
- (3) Inserting a definition of "governing documents" to mean the declaration; bylaws; covenants, conditions, and restrictions; and house rules;

- (4) Limiting the existing authority to charge a reasonable fee for copies of association documents to be only for duplication, postage, and stationery;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 385, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 385, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1748 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 109

The purpose of this measure is to require that the Hawaiian version of a law be held binding if the law in question was either:

- (1) Originally drafted in Hawaiian and then translated into English and the law has not been later amended, codified, recodified, or reenacted in English; or
- (2) Originally drafted in English and subsequently amended, codified, recodified, or reenacted in Hawaiian.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary; Department of the Attorney General; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that in 2007, the United Nations adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and this measure would contribute to the growing international movement for the protection of the rights of the world's indigenous peoples.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Reverting to the S.D. 1 version of this measure, which required that the Hawaiian version of a law be held binding if the law in question was originally drafted in Hawaiian and meets certain criteria;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 109, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 109, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1749 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 116

The purpose of this measure is to provide for civil remedies for any person who is injured by discriminatory reporting to a law enforcement officer.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission; Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission; Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Pride at Work Hawai'i; Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Lambda Law Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaii Patriot Republicans and numerous individuals.

The Committee finds that while public safety benefits from citizen reports of criminal activity, misuse of law enforcement to target individuals based on protected characteristics is a growing concern. This measure provides a civil remedy for those harmed by discriminatory reporting, ensuring accountability and deterrence.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Including gender expression among the classes protected from discriminatory reporting;
- (2) Codifying the requirement that the Department of Law Enforcement, in consultation with the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission, provide guidance to the public on the discriminatory reporting enacted by this measure;
- (3) Adding "place of birth" as a protected class to the purpose and intent provision of the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission laws; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 116, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 116, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 8. Noes, 2 (Garcia, Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1750 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 401

The purpose of this measure is to include any firearm with the capacity to fire ammunition of fifty caliber or higher, excluding certain firearms, in the list of prohibited weapons.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement; Giffords; Everytown for Gun Safety; Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, Hawai'i Chapter; Students Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, Hawai'i Chapter; Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Mid Pacific Pistol League; Aloha Freedom Coalition; Hawaii Patriot Republicans; Safari Club International, Hawaii Chapter; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Honolulu Police Department and one individual.

Your Committee finds that this measure will strengthen Hawaii's firearms laws and enhance public safety in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Beginning July 8, 2025, prohibiting:
 - (A) Persons from bringing or causing to be brought into the State assault rifles, assault shotguns, or .50 caliber firearms; and
 - (B) The sale or transfer of assault rifles, assault shotguns, or .50 caliber firearms in the State to anyone other than authorized individuals;
- (2) Amending the prohibition on certain weapons to add assault rifles and assault shotguns, in addition firearms with the capacity to fire ammunition of fifty caliber or higher;
- (3) Expanding the ban on high-capacity detachable magazines to include those magazines designed for or capable of use with any firearm;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 401, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 401, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 1 (Shimizu). Excused, 2 (Cochran, Garcia).

SCRep. 1751 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 601

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require law enforcement to post notice that a warranted or warrantless search has been conducted on a property;
- (2) Require a law enforcement officer to secure any entrance used by an officer in the search;
- (3) Allow the breaking of any doors, gates, other bars to the entrance, closets, and other closed places during a search when reasonable and other means of entering the space are not reasonable; and
- (4) Require law enforcement agencies to develop a policy for securing the entrances to a house, store, or other building designated as a place to be searched after a search is completed.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Honolulu Police Department; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Police Department; Aloha Freedom Coalition; Hawaii Patriot Republicans; Hawaiian Islands Republican Women; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that this measure will ensure residents are properly informed when a search has been conducted by the police on their private residence.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Codifying the requirement that law enforcement agencies develop a policy for securing the entrances to a house, store, or other building designated as a place to be searched after a search is completed;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 601, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 601, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Garcia).

SCRep. 1752 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 694

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit minors from being held in jails, lockups, or prisons for adults.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Office of the Public Defender; Human Rights for Kids; ACLU of Hawai'i; Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that minors held in adult correctional facilities often lack appropriate rehabilitative services and face higher risks of harm, including abuse and suicide. This measure aims to promote the well-being and rehabilitation of minors by preventing minors from being held in adult jails or prisons.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Repealing the requirement that the official in charge of a facility for the detention of adult offenders or persons charged with crime shall inform the court immediately when a minor who is or appears to be under eighteen years of age is received at the facility;
- (2) Allowing minors to be temporarily held for processing or while in transit to court in an adult jail or lockup in a county that does not have a juvenile detention facility, under certain circumstances;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 694, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 694, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1753 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1231

The purpose of this measure is to adopt portions of the Uniform Parentage Act of 2017 to update existing law.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Department of Health; Department of the Attorney General; Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission; Pride at Work - Hawai'i; Fertility Institute of Hawaii; Advanced Reproductive Medicine & Gynecology of Hawaii, Inc.; Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation; North Shore Ko'olau Diversity Collective; Uniform Law Commission; Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Women Lawyers; Lambda Law Hawai'i, a Law Student Association at the William S. Richardson School of Law; U.S. Donor Conceived Council; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i State Commission on Fatherhood and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that the State's existing parentage laws do not fully reflect modern family structures, advances in reproductive technology, or evolving legal concepts of parenthood. Your Committee further finds that the Uniform Parentage Act of 2017 provides a comprehensive framework that ensures equal treatment for children of same-gender couples, recognizes functional parents as legal parents, and includes provisions for surrogacy and assisted reproductive technology. This measure adopts portions of the Uniform Parentage Act of 2017 to modernize the law, ensuring it aligns with contemporary family dynamics and provides clear legal protections for all parents and children in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the definition of "birthing hospital";
- (2) Allowing a presumed parent, rather than a functional parent, to sign an acknowledgment of parentage;
- (3) Clarifying which staff are not subject to liability for a negligent act or omission relative to the accuracy of the information provided regarding the voluntary acknowledgment of parentage or for filing the declaration with the appropriate state or local agencies;
- (4) Amending the confidentiality provisions related to certain parentage actions, proceedings, and records, including birth certificates;
- (5) Clarifying when a court must adjudicate parentage in the best interest of the child;
- (6) Clarifying when a court must deny the request for genetic testing;
- (7) Clarifying that the withdrawal of consent to assisted reproduction must be given to the fertility clinic facilitating the assisted reproduction;
- (8) Clarifying that the intended parent or parents may choose the child's name in situations where the child is born to a gestational surrogate or genetic surrogate; and
- (9) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1231, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1231, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 1754 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1095

The purpose of this measure is to increase the decal size restrictions for special number plates.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that although special number plates with full-plate designs have been used to raise revenue for certain causes, these special number plates create administrative burdens and challenges with the procurement process for the county agencies responsible for issuing new plates. Your Committee further finds that under existing law, private organizations can apply for and have license plate designs based on decals of a certain size that can be added to standard license plates. This alternative approach allows these organizations to raise revenue for their causes without increasing the administrative burden on the counties. Therefore, your Committee believes that enlarging the existing decal size restrictions will reduce the burden on organizations attempting to personalize special number plates for their causes.

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 S.B. No. 1095, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1755 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1447

The purpose of this measure is to require any cease and desist order issued by the Director of Health that is administratively appealed to remain in effect during the appeals process.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Director of Health is authorized to issue orders to cease and desist to certain state-licensed facilities due to concerns over the health and safety of patients. This measure ensures that cease and desist orders remain in effect during the administrative appeals process, preventing facilities that have received such orders from continuing operations while the appeals process is underway.

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 S.B. No. 1447 and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kahaloa).

SCRep. 1756 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1520

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an exemption from mediation in paternity proceedings where there are allegations of domestic abuse; and
- (2) Clarify the exemption from mediation in divorce proceedings as it relates to domestic abuse.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that in contested paternity and divorce proceedings where allegations of domestic abuse are present, the requirement for mediation can place victims in emotionally harmful and unsafe situations. Your Committee further finds that the current mediation process may force parties who have experienced domestic abuse to engage with their abuser in a setting that is not conducive to their safety or well-being. This measure seeks to address these concerns by exempting parties alleging domestic abuse from mandatory mediation, ensuring that any mediation is conducted under conditions that prioritize the safety of the victim.

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 S.B. No. 1520, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kahaloa).

SCRep. 1757 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1582

The purpose of this measure is to recognize the coconut palm as a culturally significant plant and sustainable staple food source in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Niu Now/Uluniu; Hawai'i Food+Policy; Ohana Unity Party; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that coconut palms are a significant and underutilized natural resource in Hawaii. Your Committee further finds that the coconut palm is an enduring symbol of Native Hawaiian culture. Therefore, this measure formally recognizes the coconut palm as a culturally significant plant and staple food source in the State.

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 S.B. No. 1582, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1758 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 15

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend the definition of "historic property" to require that the property is over fifty years old and meets the criteria for inclusion in the Hawai'i Register of Historic Places; and
- (2) Exclude proposed projects on existing residential property and proposed projects that are in nominally sensitive areas from the State's Historic Preservation Program review, under certain circumstances.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; NAIOP Hawaii; and Maui Chamber of Commerce. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the O'ahu Historic Preservation Commission of the City and County of Honolulu; Ko'olau Foundation; Historic Hawai'i Foundation; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that under existing law, the definition of "historic property" determines how the State Historic Preservation Division evaluates historic and cultural resources and the impacts projects submitted to the Division have on historic and cultural resources. However, your Committee further finds that the existing definition merely bases this determination on age, and fails to take into consideration if a historic or cultural resource is of enough integrity and significance to be identified as "historic". This measure narrows the definition of "historic property" and allows historic preservation reviews to be completed in a more streamlined manner.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 15, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 15, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1759 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 849

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit and impose penalties on the intentional taking, harming, or killing of 'io; and
- (2) Increase the penalties and fees for taking and killing indigenous species of aquatic life, wildlife, and land plants that are native to the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and one individual.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii is home to a rich diversity of indigenous species of aquatic life, wildlife, and land plants that are important in maintaining ecological balance and preserving the cultural heritage of the region. Your Committee further finds that the 'io, or Hawaiian hawk, serves as a symbol of strength and resilience in Hawaiian culture and plays a vital role in Hawaii's unique ecosystem as a native raptor. However, the 'io and other native wildlife face ongoing threats from habitat loss, illegal hunting, and environmental degradation. This measure seeks to strengthen penalties for the taking killing of Hawaii's indigenous species, including 'io, to deter harmful activity against aquatic life, wildlife, and land plants that are native to Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 849, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 849, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Todd).

SCRep. 1760 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1170

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the director of a county planning department to issue a special management area use permit to redevelop permanent affordable multi-family rental housing that has been destroyed as a result of certain natural disasters and require county planning departments or agencies to prioritize approving permits for these redevelopments, under certain circumstances;
- (2) Permanently exempt affordable multi-family rental housing projects within the special management area that are being redeveloped and are located on properties or districts on the state or national historic register from environmental impact statement requirements; and
- (3) Permit county planning departments or other applicable state or county department or agency to amend or modify final plans and specifications for redevelopment of existing experimental and demonstration housing projects, with certain restrictions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Lāhainā Strong; Maui Chamber of Commerce; KCOM Corp.; Pacific Commercial Realty Corp.; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

Your Committee finds that the State's affordable housing shortage is particularly acute and continued development of affordable housing projects is critical, especially following a disaster such as the 2023 Maui wildfires. There is an urgent need to quickly rebuild affordable housing after a disaster, including multi-family rental housing, to ensure displaced residents are able to return to their communities and rebuild their lives. Your Committee notes that presently, special management area use permits in Maui County can require over a year for processing. Your Committee further finds that the longer the development process takes, the higher the associated costs, which in turn drive up housing prices. This measure streamlines the redevelopment process for permanent affordable multi-family rental housing, which in turn will lower development expenses, make housing more affordable, and ensure more affordable rental housing is available sooner.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Placing language requiring county planning departments to prioritize the approval of permits to redevelop permanent affordable multi-family rental housing after issuing a special management area use permit in chapter 201H, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation, rather than in chapter 205A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to coastal zone management;
- (2) Placing language exempting affordable multi-family rental housing projects within a special management area that are being redeveloped and are located on properties or districts on the Hawaii or National Historic Register from environmental impact statement requirements in chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to environmental impact statements, rather than in chapter 205A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to coastal zone management;
- (3) Placing language establishing certain procedures and exemptions for the redevelopment of affordable multi-family rental housing that was originally developed as an experimental and demonstration housing project in chapter 46, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to county organization and administration, rather than chapter 205A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to coastal zone management; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1170, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1170, S.D. 2, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1761 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 330

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Department of Agriculture to enforce federal quarantines.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture and Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that the State's growing citrus industry is vulnerable to invasive pests and diseases, which pose a serious threat to agricultural productivity and biosecurity. Your Committee further finds that the State lacks a mechanism to enforce federal quarantines on shipments from invested areas, leaving Hawaii exposed to the introduction of harmful pests and diseases such as citrus greening. This measure addresses that gap by strengthening the State's ability to protect its agricultural resources.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting unnecessary language authorizing the Department of Agriculture to establish a quarantine and also adopt rules against pests not covered by federal regulations or orders;
- (2) Clarifying the documentation required for regulated articles to avoid a conflict with federal regulations;
- (3) Inserting a separate definition for "federal quarantine"; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 330, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 330, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1762 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1393

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the School Facilities Authority to consult with the Department of Education or other impacted department or agency before any transfer or lease of land or property owned or occupied by the impacted department or agency to the School Facilities Authority; and
- (2) Repeal the requirement that the Department of Education transfer title to lands it holds upon request of the School Facilities Authority.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the School Facilities Authority.

Your Committee finds that the existing process for transferring or leasing state lands to the School Facilities Authority lacks sufficient collaboration with the Department of Education, potentially leading to misalignment with the Department's operational goals and long-term planning. Without a formal consultation requirement, decisions regarding land management may disrupt the Department of Education's mission to provide effective student learning environments. This measure ensures such decisions align with the educational and operational goals of the Department of Education.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1393, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1393, S.D. 1, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1763 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1373

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and certain licensing boards to automatically revoke and refuse to renew, restore, or reinstate a license, registration, or certification if the person either committed an offense that would be punishable as an offense described under the sex offender registration laws or is required to register as a sex offender;
- (2) Provide a licensee, registrant, or certification holder with an opportunity for a hearing on the adverse action;
- (3) Specify that final orders of discipline are matters of public record; and
- (4) Prohibit the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs or licensing board, as appropriate, from restoring, renewing, or reinstating a license, registration, or certification in a case where the person has been required to register as a sex offender and the victim of the covered offense was a patient or client or a former patient or client.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Board of Dentistry; Board of Massage Therapy; Board of Psychology; Board of Nursing; Board of Naturopathic Medicine; Board of Physical Therapy; Hawaii Medical Board; Board of Optometry; Board of Barbering and Cosmetology; Board of Chiropractic; Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology; Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women; Honolulu Police Department; RAINN; Ohana Unity Party; Kingdom of the Hawaiian Islands; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Board of Acupuncture.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's laws do not facilitate the timely revocation of a license and denial of a renewal, restoration, or reinstatement of a license for certain professions when the licensee becomes or is found to be a registered sex offender. This measure authorizes the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and its professional and vocational licensing boards, commissions, and programs to act more swiftly to safeguard clients and customers when a licensee is convicted of a crime that requires the licensee to register as a sex offender.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the provisions of this measure also apply to permits issued by the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs or licensing board, as applicable, in the case of certain professions or vocations;
- (2) Specifying that the provisions of this measure apply to an application for the initial issuance of a license, registration, certification, or permit;
- (3) Clarifying one of the bases on which the Director or licensing board shall take action is when the person was convicted of an offense that would have been punishable as a sexual offense, rather than any offense, under the sex offender registration laws; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1373, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1373, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kahaloa).

SCRep. 1764 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 102

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit third-party restaurant reservation services from listing, advertising, promoting, or selling restaurant reservations without the express consent of the restaurant, enforceable through a private cause of action for civil remedies.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Restaurant Association; Booking Holdings, Inc.; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from American Express Company.

Your Committee finds that unauthorized third-party restaurant reservation services mislead consumers and create unnecessary burdens for restaurants. This measure addresses these issues by prohibiting third parties from listing or selling reservations without the restaurant's prior written consent and establishing a legal remedy for affected businesses.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 102, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 102, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 1765 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1263

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize lead agencies, including county governments, to make determinations on the potential effects of a project;
- (2) Create a ninety-day limit, or thirty-calendar-day limit if no historic properties are affected, for the Department of Land and Natural Resources to concur or not concur with project effect determinations;
- (3) Exempt projects with written concurrence from further review unless there is a change to the project or additional historic properties, aviation artifacts, or burial sites are identified within the project area; and
- (4) Create a process for expediting the review of majority-residential mixed-use transit-oriented development or residential transit-oriented development on certain parcels and rights-of-way within county-designated transit-oriented development zones that have a low risk of affecting historically significant resources.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Hawai'i Community Development Authority; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Holomua Collaborative; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; NAIOP Hawaii; and Hawai'i YIMBY. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Your Committee finds that the State's ongoing housing crisis is resulting in an outmigration of local residents to the mainland. Accordingly, the State must implement policies and programs that allow for housing to be built in a manner and on a scale that is affordable and attainable for local working families, particularly in transit-oriented development districts.

Your Committee further finds that the State Historic Preservation Division's lengthy review process has been a bottleneck in the development process for affordable housing, which delays construction and ultimately results in increased costs. This measure streamlines the review of majority-residential mixed-use transit-oriented development or residential transit-oriented development in certain areas, while also including safeguards that allow the State Historic Preservation Division to continue its crucial role in preserving and protecting the State's important historical and cultural property.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that if the Department of Land and Natural Resources requires additional information or clarification regarding the physical, rather than project, scope of work, then the Department is required to notify the applicant and specify the information needed; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1263, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1263, S.D. 2, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1766 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 79

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to determine the effect of any proposed housing project that may affect a historical property, an aviation artifact, or a burial site within ninety days of a request for determination;
- (2) Establish historic review requirements based on the project area's known historic, cultural, and archaeological resources; and
- (3) Establish procedures and notification requirements if previously unidentified human remains or previously unidentified historic or cultural resources are discovered during archaeological monitoring or housing project construction.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; and NAIOP Hawaii. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Your Committee finds that the historic preservation review process needs to be streamlined to help address Hawaii's housing crisis and support the State's efforts to provide affordable housing. This measure sets reasonable timelines and risk-based review criteria for historic preservation reviews, while also incorporating safeguards that will support the identification, documentation, and avoidance of iwi kupuna, as well as historic and cultural resources, during planning and construction of affordable housing projects. Your Committee further finds that the clear guidelines established by this measure will provide much-needed certainty for developers and agencies working to deliver housing for local families.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Establishing factors on which the Department of Land and Natural Resources shall base its determination for a proposed housing project;
- (2) Clarifying that any mitigation to reduce adverse effects on a significant historic property prior to commencement of a housing project shall be implemented pursuant to terms approved by the Department of Land and Natural Resources or the relevant island burial council pursuant to statutory provisions relating to prehistoric and historic burial sites;
- (3) Clarifying that the notification requirements to include documentation for; assessment of effects on; and proposed actions to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects on archaeological resources; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 79, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 79, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Perruso, Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1767 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 31

The purpose of this measure is to authorize a person who discovers a recorded discriminatory restrictive covenant on real property to take certain actions, without liability, to invalidate the covenant.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Uniform Law Commission.

Your Committee finds that discriminatory restrictive covenants, though unenforceable, remain in real estate records, reflecting historical injustices that conflict with Hawaii's commitment to equality. This measure provides a process for property owners to formally acknowledge and invalidate these covenants through recorded statements or notices, ensuring clarity in property records.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the statement or notice, which calls attention to the discriminatory restrictive covenant, to include the other classes protected by this measure;
- (2) Including as a basis for determining whether a restrictive covenant is a discriminatory restrictive covenant that the restrictive covenant violates the Equal Protection Clause under article I, section 5, of the Hawaii State Constitution; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 31, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 31, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 1768 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 66

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require permits to be issued by the applicable permitting agency within sixty days for certain single-family and multi-family housing projects if certain conditions are satisfied;
- (2) Automatically deem approved a permit that is either not otherwise approved by the applicable permitting agency within sixty days or for which the applicant has agreed to all changes or recommendations to the plans and specifications made by the applicable permitting agency; and
- (3) Pause the sixty day permit review period under certain circumstances.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Hawaii Food Industry Association; RMA Sales; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; NAIOP Hawaii; Hawai'i YIMBY; and Maui Chamber of Commerce. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu; HI Good Neighbor; Lāhainā Strong; Hawaii's Thousand Friends; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Your Committee finds that the State's lengthy permitting process results in delays that can significantly increase project costs, create uncertainty, and slow or disincentivize the construction of much needed housing. As time passes, interest rates rise, the costs of material and labor increase, and market factors change, which can render previously viable projects financially unfeasible. This measure therefore addresses delays in the permitting process that can help with the State's housing crisis.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the situations in which a county shall not consider an application complete; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 66, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 66, S.D. 2, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 3 (Belatti, Perruso, Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1769 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 97

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the penalty for a third or subsequent offense of excessive speeding to a class C felony and a sentence of an indeterminate term of imprisonment for five years;
- (2) Authorize the court, as part of the person's sentencing for the third or subsequent offense, to order that vehicle be subject to forfeiture;
- (3) Require a repeat offender convicted of a class C felony for excessive speeding be subject to identification processing;
- (4) Establish penalties for noncompliance with the maximum speed limit under an automated speed enforcement system and specify that any summons or citations resulting from noncompliance shall not be recorded on a person's traffic abstract and used for insurance purposes; and
- (5) Require a person convicted of certain traffic offenses or granted a deferred acceptance of a guilty or nolo contendere plea or conditional discharge of the offense who has not previously undergone identification processing be subject to identification processing.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Honolulu Police Department; Hawai'i Police Department; Pearl City Neighborhood Board No. 21; and Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that excessive speeding is a leading cause of severe traffic collisions, injuries, and fatalities in Hawaii. Speed-related crashes have accounted for a significant portion of roadway deaths in the State, with nearly half of all traffic fatalities over the past decade involving speeding. By enhancing penalties for repeat offenders, this measure aims to deter reckless driving behavior and improve safety on Hawaii's roads.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the penalty from a class C felony to a misdemeanor and deleting language requiring the person to be sentenced to an indeterminate term of imprisonment of five years;
- (2) Amending the sentencing for a third or subsequent offense of excessive speeding;

- (3) Deleting language that would have required a repeat offender to be ordered by the court to report for identification processing;
- (4) Clarifying language relating to summons and citations issued under the Automated Speed Enforcement Systems Program;
- (5) Deleting language that would have required a person convicted of certain traffic offenses or granted a deferred acceptance of a guilty or nolo contendere plea or conditional discharge of the offense who has not previously undergone identification processing be subject to identification processing; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 97, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 97, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1770 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 344

The purpose of this measure is to require the use of a helmet by anyone under the age of eighteen while riding a skateboard.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; and 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 further finds that from 2009 to 2018, there were an estimated 100,201 emergency room visits nationwide related to trauma to the head and face while skateboarding. Your Committee also finds that according to the National Library of Medicine, wearing a helmet while skateboarding reduces the risk of head injuries by up to eighty-eight percent. This measure increases safety for the State's children and youth by requiring anyone under eighteen years old to wear a helmet.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 344, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 344, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1771 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1216

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Condition the issuance of a certificate of inspection upon a vehicle not being equipped with a noisy muffler or exhaust system;
- (2) Require rules regarding safety check inspections to ensure that a motorcycle, moped, or motor vehicle is not equipped with a noisy muffler or exhaust system;
- (3) Suspend, revoke, or refuse renewal of a permit for an official inspection station upon a third or subsequent willful violation of any rule within a certain period of time regarding inspecting a noisy muffler or exhaust system;
- (4) Increase all fines relating to motor vehicle muffler violations by \$50;
- (5) Exempt motorcycles and mopeds that do not exceed United States Environmental Protection Agency regulations under title 40, Code of Federal Regulations section 205.152; and
- (6) Include repairing or installing a noisy muffler or exhaust system as a prohibited practice for motor vehicle repair laws.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Windward Coalition; Waikiki Neighborhood Board; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from three individuals.

Your Committee finds that excessive noise from mufflers and exhaust systems disturbs communities and negatively impacts the quality of life of many Hawaii residents. This measure helps deter the use of vehicles with noisy mufflers or exhaust systems by establishing certain inspection requirements to ensure vehicles are not equipped with these systems and increasing fines and penalties.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that any violation not preceded within a three-year period for a violation shall be subject to a fine of no more than \$150;
- (2) Clarifying that a violation for a third or subsequent offense committed within three years, rather than within five years, of any other violation shall be subject to a fine of no more than \$950; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1216, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1216, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1772 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1522

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify that proof that a transferor has filed required notice forms serves as a complete defense to any action brought against the transferor for an act or omission, civil or criminal, arising out of the use, operation, or abandonment of the vehicle by another person; and
- (2) Require the courts to create new forms permitting transferors to respond to actions arising out of the use, operation, or abandonment of transferred vehicles by December 31, 2025.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the City and County of Honolulu Department of Customer Services. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary.

Your Committee finds that if a transferee of a vehicle fails to endorse and submit the vehicle's title to the appropriate county motor vehicle and licensing agency, the transferor may have persistent liability over the vehicle. This measure ensures that a transferor who has filed required notice forms will have a complete defense to any action arising from the use, operation, or abandonment of the vehicle by another person.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the Judiciary, no later than July 1, 2026, shall determine whether it is necessary to either create a new court form, or modify the Judiciary's website to provide more information, relating to transferors responding to actions arising from the use, operation, or abandonment of transferred vehicles, and, if so, to create such forms or modify the website, rather than requiring the courts to create new forms;
- (2) Deleting the requirement that the Judiciary take additional measures to assist transferors as necessary to facilitate the appropriate dismissal of those actions; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1522, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1522, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1773 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 30

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit anyone under the age of:

- (1) Sixteen from operating a moped; and
- (2) Twenty-one from driving a moped without a helmet.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; Honolulu Police Department; Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Moped Doctors; Hawaiian Style Rentals and Sales; and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that in 2023, there were fifteen moped-related crashes in the State, of which eleven of those riders were not wearing helmets and amongst those eleven riders, seven sustained head and face injuries. Your Committee further finds that motorcycle helmets reduce head injury risk by sixty-nine percent and fatalities by thirty-seven percent. Your Committee believes that helmets are an effective preventative measure for protecting moped operators.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 30, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 30, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1774 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 597

The purpose of this measure is to extend the written review decision deadline for the issuance of a notice of administrative revocation of a license to operate a vehicle.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Law Enforcement; Department of Transportation; County of Hawai'i Office of the Prosecuting Attorney; Hawai'i Police Department; and Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition.

Your Committee finds that the Administrative Driver's License Revocation Office (ADLRO) is often unable consider toxicology results before issuing its initial written decision on whether or not to administratively revoke an individual's driver's license. Under existing statutory deadlines, the ADLRO must issue its written decision within eight days of the notice being issued in cases involving alcohol, or twenty-two days of the notice being issued in cases involving drugs. However, many forensic toxicology laboratories are unable to test for blood alcohol content or blood drug content within these deadlines, particularly if the incident occurs on the neighbor islands who must ship specimens to Honolulu for testing. This measure will allow the ADLRO the opportunity to fully consider all relevant evidence in a case by establishing a more reasonable timeframe for the ADLRO to receive and properly evaluate complete toxicology result.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 597, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 597, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1775 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1102

The purpose of this measure is to specify the appointment processes and terms for the Fire Chief of the Hawaii State Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Unit of the Airports Division of the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that the existing classification of the Fire Chief of the Hawaii State Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Unit as a civil service position limits the Department of Transportation's ability to ensure consistent leadership and accountability. Transitioning this role to an appointed position would require reclassification through the Department of Human Resources Development and agreement from the appropriate labor representative. This measure authorizes the Director of Transportation to appoint the Fire Chief, promoting strategic leadership, continuity in operations, and a clearly defined term to support long-term planning and enhanced oversight.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1102, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1102, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 1 (Shimizu). Excused, 2 (Cochran, Garcia).

SCRep. 1776 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1195

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit street parking within twenty feet on each side of any crosswalk or intersection, regardless of the presence or absence of official signs or curb markings;
- (2) Require fines collected for street parking restrictions to be deposited into the Safe Routes to School Program Special Fund; and
- (3) Specify that signs or curb markings are not required to restrict parking within twenty feet of a crosswalk or intersection.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Department of Health; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice; Ulupono; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that a disproportionately high number of pedestrian injuries and deaths occur at crosswalks and intersections. Your Committee further finds that illegal parking near crosswalks and intersections creates dangerous conditions for pedestrians. This measure prohibits and establishes fines for parking within certain distances of crosswalks, ensuring safety for pedestrians.

Your Committee recognizes that traffic fines can exacerbate economic hardship. The intent of imposing a fine for a violation is not to contribute to financial burdens, but to serve as a penalty for a violation pursuant to this measure.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Reducing the fine to \$50 for each violation; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1195, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1195, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Garcia).

SCRep. 1777 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1496

The purpose of this measure is to make it an unlawful discriminatory practice for a place of public accommodation to deny a person with a disability full and equal enjoyment of, or information related to, their goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations using information and communication technology intended for use by the general public, subject to certain exceptions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Health Planning and Development Agency; Disability and Communication Access Board; Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii; and ten individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that advancements in technology have altered how businesses and service providers communicate with their customers and the public, including through the use of websites and applications on mobile devices. However, these advancements in technology may not accommodate persons with disabilities, denying them full and equal access. This measure addresses this challenge by ensuring that places of public accommodation provide equal access to digital information and service persons with disabilities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1496, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1496, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kahaloa).

SCRep. 1778 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 1411

The purpose of this measure is to amend third party liability provisions for Medicaid programs for payment as required under the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services and one individual.

Your Committee finds that section 202 of Division P of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022, P.L. 117-103 (section 202), amends section 1902(a)(25)(I) of the Social Security Act to require states to have laws that bar responsible third-party payers (other than Medicare plans) from refusing payment for an item or service solely on the basis that such item or service did not receive prior authorization under the third-party payer's rules. Specifically, if the responsible third party requires prior authorization for an item or a service furnished to a Medicaid-eligible individual, the responsible third party must accept the authorization provided by the state that the item or service is covered under the state plan (or waiver of such plan) for the individual, as if such authorization was made by the third party for the item or service.

Your Committee further finds that measure amends state law to be in compliance with the requirements of section 202 and will allow the Department of Human Services to submit a federally required Medicaid State Plan Amendment attesting to such, which it cannot do without the amendments proposed in this measure.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1411, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1411, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ichiyama).

SCRep. 1779 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1442

The purpose of this measure is to clarify and update the responsibilities of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division of the Department of Health to reflect the State's current mental health systems of care that address mental health needs of children and adolescents in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawaii State Council on Mental Health; Department of Health Child & Adolescent Mental Health Division; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that modernizing the statutory language that governs the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division will ensure that Hawaii's mental health care framework aligns with best practices and evolving community needs, thereby enhancing mental health care access and effectiveness for Hawaii's youth.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making conforming amendments to section 321-174, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to coordination of services with the Department of Education;
- (2) Changing its effective date to upon approval; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1442, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1442, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kahaloa).

SCRep. 1780 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1323

The purpose of this measure is to update laws concerning advance health care directives and advance mental health care directives by adopting the Uniform Health-Care Decisions Act (2023) in modified form.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Health; and Commission to Promote Uniform Legislation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Disability Rights Center.

Your Committee finds that existing law provides a legal framework for advance health-care directives. This measure updates and consolidates these laws by adopting a modified version of the Uniform Health-Care Decisions Act (2023).

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Reinserting language that provided a procedure for addressing objections by the individual to a non-judicial finding that the individual lacks capacity;
- (2) Reinserting language that limited the authority of default surrogates; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1323, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1323, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kahaloa).

SCRep. 1781 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1421

The purpose of this measure is to repeal the requirement for the Department of Health to approve a health care provider's arrangement for the retention and preservation of patients' medical records prior to the health care ceasing operations and clarify the requirements for any such arrangements.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health and Queen's Health Systems.

Your Committee finds that requiring the approval from the Department of Health for the disposition of patient medical records is no longer necessary, as modern electronic medical record systems have features that ensure security, redundancy, and protection for medical records. This measure removes the redundant approval requirement while ensuring that the State's medical record retention laws still comply with federal and state regulations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1421, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1421, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kahaloa).

SCRep. 1782 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1433

The purpose of this measure is to improve the safety, effectiveness, and cost savings of the State's Sterile Needle and Syringe Exchange Program by amending the program based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy's model legislation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Hep Free Hawaii; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaii Patriot Republicans. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that syringe exchange programs are a cost-effective means of preventing the spread of bloodborne infections like HIV and Hepatitis C, reducing drug use and drug overdoses, and protecting the public and first responders by providing safe syringe disposal. Your Committee further finds that, despite support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommending a needs-based approach to syringe distribution, Hawaii is one of only two states that continue to impose a strict one-to-one sterile needle and exchange limit, which can leave some syringe exchange program participants without enough syringes and needles to use new sterile equipment each time they inject. This measure seeks to improve public health by updating state law to align with recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to allow for needs-based syringe distribution for syringe exchange program participants.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1433, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1433, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 2 (Garcia, Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Kahaloa).

SCRep. 1783 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1452

The purpose of this measure is to update the State's Uniform Controlled Substance Act to make it consistent with amendments to the federal Controlled Substances Act.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement.

Your Committee finds that this measure is necessary to make permanent the temporary designation of new controlled substances by the Department of Law Enforcement. Your Committee further finds that the Department of Law Enforcement's temporary designation of the new controlled substances will be nullified if this Legislature does not make the designations permanent.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1452, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1452, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kahaloa).

SCRep. 1784 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 228

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit excited delirium from being recognized as a valid medical diagnosis or cause of death in the State;
- (2) Prohibit a medical examiner, coroner, or health care provider from:
 - (A) Documenting, testifying to, or otherwise using excited delirium as a recognized medical diagnosis or cause of death in any official capacity or communication; and
 - (B) Stating on a certificate of death or in any report that the cause of death was excited delirium;
- (3) Prohibit law enforcement officers from using the term "excited delirium" to describe an individual in an incident report; and
- (4) Establish a new Hawaii Rule of Evidence that deems evidence that a person experienced or suffered excited delirium to be inadmissible in a civil action.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Office of the Public Defender; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; Drug Policy Forum of Hawai'i; Haddad & Sherwin LLP; Reimagining Public Safety in Hawai'i Coalition; Hui Malama Pono Hawai'i; National Police Accountability Project; ACLU of Hawai'i; Hawaii Health & Harm Reduction Center; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary.

Your Committee finds that the term "excited delirium" is now disavowed by major medical organizations, including the American Medical Association, American Psychiatric Association, American Academy of Emergency Medicine, National Association of Medical Examiners, American College of Medical Toxicology, and American College of Emergency Physicians. Your Committee further finds that the concept of excited delirium has been used in various cases over the years to justify, excuse, or negate liability for police misconduct in cases involving the deaths of individuals in custody. This measure would strengthen accountability on the part of law enforcement.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Renaming the title of Chapter 327C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to "Medical Diagnosis; Death";
- (2) Modifying the definition of "excited delirium" in Chapter 327C, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 228, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 228, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kahaloa).

SCRep. 1785 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1074

The purpose of this measure is to temporarily allow:

- (1) An activity or operation that is permitted or authorized under the ocean recreation and coastal area programs chapter of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, and renewed within twelve months preceding the initiation of proceedings to determine whether the activity or operation is subject to environmental review to continue operation for one year while the appropriate agency makes the determination and conducts any necessary environmental review; and
- (2) A person with oversight of the activity or operation to renew the appropriate permits while under the environmental review process.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Teralani Sailing Adventures; Maui Brewing Co.; Holo Holo Charters; Activities and Attractions Association of Hawaii; The Ritz-Carlton Maui, Kapalua; Island Dream Productions; Maui Hotel and Lodging Association; Outrigger Hospitality Group; Sailing Maui Inc.; Sail Maui; Sea Sports Distributors, Inc.; Lahaina Divers Inc; Maui Classic Charters; Hula Girl Sailing Charters; Shangri-La Sailing Charters; Three's Bar & Grill; Explore Kauai Scuba; Stanford Yacht Tenders, Ltd.; RED Hospitality & Leisure Hawaii, LLC; Trilogy Excursions; Calypso Charters; Absolute Charters, Inc; The Westin Maui Resort & Spa Ka'anapali; 3two3 Promotions; Schooner Creek Boat Works; Ocean Tourism Coalition; Ka'anapali Beach Resort Association; Sailing Shipp; Sea Maui; Duke's Maui; Exclusive Limo Maui; Custom Metal Creations; Island Scuba Inc.; Fun Charters Inc.; Fair Wind Cruises; Captain Andy's Sailing Adventures; Ka'anapali Kai Charters; Kona Snorkel Trips; Outrigger Kā'anapali Beach Resort; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Maui Concierge Service; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawaii Island Aha Moku; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Friends of Hanauma Bay; Big Island Reef Keepers Hui; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; For the Fishes; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Conservation Council for Hawai'i; Free Access Coalition; Napili Bay and Beach Foundation; Life of the Land; Sierra Club, Maui Group; Hawai'i Ocean Legislative Task Force; Kupuna for the Moopuna; Earthjustice; Nā Alaka'i o 'Ahahui o Hawai'i; Moana Ohana; Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Hui; Nā Kia'i Kai; Pō'ai Wai Ola; Kūmano I Ke Ala; Na Papai Waewae Ula Ula; Ko'olapoko Hawaiian Civic Club; Hawaii's Thousand Friends; Surfrider Foundation; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from Rodrigues Ohana.

Your Committee finds that the State's environmental review process is designed to assess new projects with potential environmental impacts. Your Committee further finds that recent court decisions have expanded the kinds of activities subject to environmental review, causing long-standing commercial operations to cease operation while the environmental review is pending. This measure ensures that certain activities or operations can continue for one year while undergoing environmental review.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Placing the new statutory language in the Session Laws of Hawaii, rather than codifying the language in Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (2) Deleting the definition of "permitted or authorized"; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1074, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1074, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia, Shimizu). Noes, 2 (Poepoe, Perruso). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1786 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 946

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify that the prohibition against discharging wastewater or raw sewage into state waters after December 31, 2026, includes treatment plants; and
- (2) Repeal the exemption from the prohibition for treatment plants that utilize sewage to produce clean energy.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Mayor of the County of Maui; one member of the Maui County Council; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that in order to protect the waters of the State, it is vital to prohibit practices that discharge wastewater and raw sewage into state waters. This measure seeks to clarify that the existing prohibition on discharging any wastewater or raw sewage extends to treatment plants, which will ensure a greater level of environmental protection for state waters.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing its effective date to upon approval.

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 S.B. No. 946, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 946, S.D. 2, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia, Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Todd).

SCRep. 1787 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.R. No. 100

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Education to take immediate action to strengthen local farm-to-school initiatives and request the department to:

- (1) Streamline the procurement process to make it easier for small- and medium-scale farmers to sell to schools, including simplifying contracting requirements and increasing flexibility in sourcing policies;
- (2) Develop a statewide database of local farms that are eligible and interested in supplying food for school meals to facilitate farm-to-school connections;
- (3) Increase financial incentives for schools to purchase locally sourced food through grant programs, subsidies, or farm-to-school budget allocations;
- (4) Ensure culturally appropriate foods, such as kalo, 'uala, and ulu, are incorporated into school meal programs; and
- (5) Submit a report on its progress, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2026.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Climate Protectors Hawaii, Kauai Climate Action Coalition, Hawai'i Farm Bureau, Climate Future Forum, Democratic Party of Hawai'i, Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council, and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that farm-to-school programs provide an opportunity to increase local food procurement and resilience, reduce Hawai'i's reliance on imported goods, and strengthen the State's agricultural economy. Additionally, prioritizing the procurement of locally grown Native Hawaiian crops aligns with Hawai'i's commitment to food sovereignty, climate resilience, and indigenous agricultural practices. Your Committee further finds that expanding local farm procurement in farm-to-school initiatives would support Hawai'i's small and medium-sized farms and provide stable, institutional markets for Hawai'i's farmers. This measure urges the Department of Education to take immediate action to strengthen local farm-to-school initiatives by streamlining the procurement process to make it easier for small and medium-scale farmers to sell to schools, developing a statewide database of interested and eligible farms, increasing financial incentives for schools to purchase locally sourced food, ensure culturally appropriate foods, and submitting a report on its progress and any proposed legislation prior to the Regular Session of 2026.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 100 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 1788 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.C.R. No. 104

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Education to take immediate action to strengthen local farm-to-school initiatives and request the department to:

- (1) Streamline the procurement process to make it easier for small- and medium-scale farmers to sell to schools, including simplifying contracting requirements and increasing flexibility in sourcing policies;
- (2) Develop a statewide database of local farms that are eligible and interested in supplying food for school meals to facilitate farm-to-school connections;
- (3) Increase financial incentives for schools to purchase locally sourced food through grant programs, subsidies, or farm-to-school budget allocations;
- (4) Ensure culturally appropriate foods, such as kalo, 'uala, and ulu, are incorporated into school meal programs; and
- (5) Submit a report on its progress, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2026.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System, Department of Agriculture, Climate Protectors Hawaii, Kauai Climate Action Coalition, Hawai'i Farm Bureau, Democratic Party of Hawai'i, Hawai'i Youth Food Council, Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council, and three individuals. Your Committee received comments from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that farm-to-school programs provide an opportunity to increase local food procurement and resilience, reduce Hawai'i's reliance on imported goods, and strengthen the State's agricultural economy. Additionally, prioritizing the procurement of locally grown Native Hawaiian crops aligns with Hawai'i's commitment to food sovereignty, climate resilience, and indigenous agricultural practices. Your Committee further finds that expanding local farm procurement in farm-to-school initiatives would support Hawai'i's small and medium-sized farms and provide stable, institutional markets for Hawai'i's farmers. This measure urges the Department of Education to take immediate action to strengthen local farm-to-school initiatives by streamlining the procurement process to make it easier for small and medium-scale farmers to sell to schools, developing a statewide database of interested and eligible farms, increasing financial incentives for schools to purchase locally sourced food, ensure culturally appropriate foods, and submitting a report on its progress and any proposed legislation prior to the Regular Session of 2026.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 104 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 1789 Labor on H.R. No. 189

The purpose of this measure is to request the University of Hawaii Community Colleges, including the University of Hawaii Maui College, to develop a comprehensive list of Bachelor's degree programs that directly align with job opportunities and industry needs within their respective region of service.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that the State's economic vitality depends on a skilled workforce that meets the needs of key regional industries, including tourism and hospitality, agriculture, marine research, renewable energy, and health care. Your Committee also finds that each of the University of Hawaii Community Colleges plays a vital role in providing accessible, regionally-relevant higher education that supports local economic development. Aligning academic programs with current and emerging job opportunities in each region will benefit students, local employers, and the overall economic growth of the State.

Your Committee notes that focusing exclusively on Bachelor's degree programs may limit the flexibility to offer academic pathways that anticipate future workforce trends.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by including associate's degrees, certificates, and other existing pathways in the development of the comprehensive list pursuant to this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 189, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 189, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 1790 Labor on H.C.R. No. 196

The purpose of this measure is to request the University of Hawaii Community Colleges, including the University of Hawaii Maui College, to develop a comprehensive list of Bachelor's degree programs that directly align with job opportunities and industry needs within their respective region of service.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that the State's economic vitality depends on a skilled workforce that meets the needs of key regional industries, including tourism and hospitality, agriculture, marine research, renewable energy, and health care. Your Committee also finds that each of the University of Hawaii Community Colleges plays a vital role in providing accessible, regionally-relevant higher education that supports local economic development. Aligning academic programs with current and emerging job opportunities in each region will benefit students, local employers, and the overall economic growth of the State.

Your Committee notes that focusing exclusively on Bachelor's degree programs may limit the flexibility to offer academic pathways that anticipate future workforce trends.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by including associate's degrees, certificates, and other existing pathways in the development of the comprehensive list pursuant to this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 196, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 196, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kapela, Reyes Oda).

SCRep. 1791 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.R. No. 188

The purpose of this measure is to have the University of Hawaii System request to establish a Veterinary Medicine Expansion Working Group to explore the feasibility of developing a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program at Windward Community College and ask that the Working Group include:

- (1) A representative of Windward Community College's Veterinary Technology program;
- (2) A representative of the University of Hawaii at Hilo's Veterinarian Education Program;
- (3) The Dean of the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience, or the Dean's designee;
- (4) The Chair of the Board of Agriculture, or the Chair's designee;
- (5) Representatives from private veterinary practice, including large animal and small animal practitioners, invited by the President of the University of Hawaii;
- (6) One member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
- (7) One member of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate; and
- (8) Any other stakeholders, as deemed necessary by the Working Group; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Working Group is requested to conduct a feasibility study addressing:

- (1) Potential partnerships with veterinary schools on the United States mainland to facilitate clinical rotations;
- (2) The alignment of the State's education and workforce pipelines to feed into the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program;
- (3) The infrastructure and facilities needed to support a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program;
- (4) The State's ability to meet accreditation requirements of the American Veterinary Medical Association;
- (5) The faculty and curriculum needed to support the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program and to meet accreditation requirements; and
- (6) The availability of funding, including public-private partnerships and federal grants.

Your Committee received testimony in support from the Animal Interfaith Alliance in Britian, Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, and four individuals.

Your Committee amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language to amend the functions of the Working Group to include the assessment on demand for the DVM program and their potential integration within the UH system at the most optimal campus; and
- (2) Amending the measure to add a section stating that community colleges are not authorized to offer doctoral programs and must obtain accreditation from Western Association of Schools and Colleges Senior College and University Commission, or another regional accreditor; and
- (3) Adding language to include a UH System representative to the Working Group.

Your Committee finds that the need to increase educational facilities for veterinarians is crucial in accordance to the shortage of available veterinarians in Hawaii. Your Committee further finds that keeping local veterinarians in Hawaii correlates with where they attend school, which means increasing local schools that offer pathways for education in this field is essential to address this shortage. Your Committee further finds that the establishment of a Working Group governed by the University of Hawaii System be created to explore the feasibility of developing a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program in other areas within the Hawaii education system.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 188, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 188, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 1792 Agriculture & Food Systems on H.C.R. No. 195

The purpose of this measure is to have the University of Hawaii System request to establish a Veterinary Medicine Expansion Working Group to explore the feasibility of developing a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program at Windward Community College and ask that the Working Group include:

- (1) A representative of Windward Community College's Veterinary Technology program;
- (2) A representative of the University of Hawaii at Hilo's Veterinarian Education Program;
- (3) The Dean of the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience, or the Dean's designee;
- (4) The Chair of the Board of Agriculture, or the Chair's designee;
- (5) Representatives from private veterinary practice, including large animal and small animal practitioners, invited by the President of the University of Hawaii;

- (6) One member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
- (7) One member of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate; and
- (8) Any other stakeholders, as deemed necessary by the Working Group; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Working Group is requested to conduct a feasibility study addressing:

- (1) Potential partnerships with veterinary schools on the United States mainland to facilitate clinical rotations;
- (2) The alignment of the State's education and workforce pipelines to feed into the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program;
- (3) The infrastructure and facilities needed to support a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program;
- (4) The State's ability to meet accreditation requirements of the American Veterinary Medical Association;
- (5) The faculty and curriculum needed to support the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program and to meet accreditation requirements; and
- (6) The availability of funding, including public-private partnerships and federal grants.

Your Committee received testimony in support from the University of Hawai'i System, Hawaiian Humane Society, Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, and seven individuals.

Your Committee amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language to amend the functions of the Working Group to include the assessment on demand for the DVM program and their potential integration within the UH system at the most optimal campus; and
- (2) Amending the measure to add a section stating that community colleges are not authorized to offer doctoral programs and must obtain accreditation from Western Association of Schools and Colleges Senior College and University Commission, or another regional accreditor; and
- (3) Adding language to include a UH System representative to the Working Group.

Your Committee finds that the need to increase educational facilities for veterinarians is crucial in accordance to the shortage of available veterinarians in Hawaii. Your Committee further finds that keeping local veterinarians in Hawaii correlates with where they attend school, which means increasing local schools that offer pathways for education in this field is essential to address this shortage. Your Committee further finds that the establishment of a Working Group governed by the University of Hawaii System be created to explore the feasibility of developing a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program in other areas within the Hawaii education system.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 195, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 195, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 1793 Human Services & Homelessness on H.C.R. No. 37

The purpose of this measure is to request the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to collaborate with relevant agencies to develop initiatives and outreach programs to inform kupuna about emergency preparedness.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs; Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition; AARP Hawai'i; Be Ready Manoa; AlohaCare; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's exposure to frequent and severe natural hazards, including hurricanes, tsunamis, earthquakes, and volcanic activity, demands comprehensive preparedness strategies that account for the State's diverse population. Older adults, who comprise a growing portion of Hawaii's residents, are particularly at-risk during disasters due to mobility challenges, chronic medical conditions, and limited access to timely information. Strengthening the ability of older adults to respond effectively in emergencies can greatly enhance their safety and ease the strain on emergency services. Accordingly, this measure urges the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to work with appropriate partners to design and implement public education efforts and outreach initiatives that ensure kupuna are better equipped to navigate emergency situations.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 37 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Takenouchi).

SCRep. 1794 Finance on H.C.R. No. 61

The purpose of this measure is to request a study examining how certain other jurisdictions produce fiscal notes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Grassroot Institute of Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Legislative Reference Bureau.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 61 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1795 Finance on H.R. No. 55

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to study the feasibility of limiting the costs of project and construction management in each state construction project to ten percent of the total cost of the project.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 55 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1796 Finance on H.C.R. No. 59

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Accounting and General Services to study the feasibility of limiting the costs of project and construction management in each state construction project to ten percent of the total cost of the project.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 59 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1797 Finance on H.R. No. 56

The purpose of this measure is to request the office of Planning and Sustainable Development, in coordination with appropriate state and county departments or agencies, to develop methods to estimate costs associated with delays in certain public and private development projects.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 56 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1798 Finance on H.C.R. No. 60

The purpose of this measure is to request the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, in coordination with appropriate state and county departments or agencies, to develop methods to estimate costs associated with delays in certain public and private development projects.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 60 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1799 Finance on H.R. No. 177

The purpose of this measure is to request that the Tax Review Commission consider certain goals for an equitable, efficient, and adequate tax policy structure in its deliberations.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from The National Federation of Independent Businesses, Hawaii Chapter; Hawaii Government Employees Association; and Hawaii Food Industry Association.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 177 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1800 Finance on H.C.R. No. 182

The purpose of this measure is to request that the Tax Review Commission consider certain goals for an equitable, efficient, and adequate tax policy structure in its deliberations.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from The National Federation of Independent Businesses, Hawaii Chapter; Hawaii Government Employees Association; and Hawaii Food Industry Association.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 182 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1801 Finance on H.R. No. 178

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Taxation and the Economic Research Organization at the University of Hawaii to collaborate and develop data driven analyses of the impacts of tax policies on economic development, migration patterns, and other factors affecting public policy.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawaii Economic Research Organization; National Federation of Independent Businesses, Hawaii Chapter; Hawaii Government Employees Association; and Hawaii Food Industry Association. Your committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 178 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1802 Finance on H.C.R. No. 183

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Taxation and the Economic Research Organization at the University of Hawaii to collaborate and develop data driven analyses of the impacts of tax policies on economic development, migration patterns, and other factors affecting public policy.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawaii Economic Research Organization; National Federation of Independent Businesses, Hawaii Chapter; Hawaii Government Employees Association; and Hawaii Food Industry Association. Your committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 183 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1803 Finance on H.R. No. 23

The purpose of this measure is to request the Auditor to conduct a sunrise analysis of condominium association managers.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 23, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1804 Finance on H.C.R. No. 24

The purpose of this measure is to request the Auditor to conduct a sunrise analysis of condominium association managers.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 24, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1805 Finance on H.R. No. 121

The purpose of this measure is to request the University of Hawaii to prioritize a capital improvement project to construct "Halau O Kawaihuelani."

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 121, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1806 Finance on H.C.R. No. 125

The purpose of this measure is to request the University of Hawaii to prioritize a capital improvement project to construct "Halau O Kawaihuelani."

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 125, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1807 Finance on H.R. No. 126

The purpose of this measure is to urge the State, counties, and other relevant agencies to provide increased and sustained funding to the Invasive Species Committees and Hawaii Ant Lab within the Pacific Cooperative Studies unit of the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 126, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1808 Finance on H.C.R. No. 130

The purpose of this measure is to urge the State, counties, and other relevant agencies to provide increased and sustained funding to the Invasive Species Committees and Hawaii Ant Lab within the Pacific Cooperative Studies unit of the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 130, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1809 Finance on H.R. No. 69

The purpose of this measure is to request the Agribusiness Development Corporation to designate Kunia, Leilehua Plateau, and Poamoho as the Central Oahu Agricultural Corridor and to establish a list prioritizing potential agricultural infrastructure improvement projects that would provide the most value to the state.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 69, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1810 Finance on H.C.R. No. 77

The purpose of this measure is to request the Agribusiness Development Corporation to designate Kunia, Leilehua Plateau, and Poamoho as the Central Oahu Agricultural Corridor and to establish a list prioritizing potential agricultural infrastructure improvement projects that would provide the most value to the state.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 77, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1811 Finance on H.R. No. 192

The purpose of this measure is to create a Maui axis deer control and venison initiative.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 192 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1812 Finance on H.C.R. No. 200

The purpose of this measure is to create a Maui axis deer control and venison initiative.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 200 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1813 Finance on H.R. No. 185

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Land and Natural Resources to convene a Kailua Bay Advisory Working Group.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 185, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1814 Finance on H.C.R. No. 191

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Land and Natural Resources to convene a Kailua Bay Advisory Working Group.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 191, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1815 Finance on H.R. No. 59

The purpose of this measure is to request the Land Use Commission to coordinate with County Planning Commissions and County Councils to conduct concurrent reviews of general plan amendments, district boundary amendments, and zoning amendments when reclassifying land.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 59 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1816 Finance on H.C.R. No. 65

The purpose of this measure is to request the Land Use Commission to coordinate with County Planning Commissions and County Councils to conduct concurrent reviews of general plan amendments, district boundary amendments, and zoning amendments when reclassifying land.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 65 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1817 Finance on H.R. No. 118

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Land and Natural Resources to establish a collaborative working group to survey, identify, and monitor culturally sensitive shorelines impacted by erosion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 118, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1818 Finance on H.C.R. No. 122

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Land and Natural Resources to establish a collaborative working group to survey, identify, and monitor culturally sensitive shorelines impacted by erosion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 122, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1819 Finance on H.R. No. 34

The purpose of this measure is to request the Health Data Advisory Council to confirm the number of uninsured children statewide and per county in 2025 and the Department of Human Services Med-QUEST Division to estimate costs and collaborate with the State Health Planning and Development Agency on policy changes needed to achieve the goal of universal health insurance coverage for children.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 34 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1820 Finance on H.C.R. No. 39

The purpose of this measure is to request the Health Data Advisory Council to confirm the number of uninsured children statewide and per county in 2025 and the Department of Human Services Med-QUEST Division to estimate costs and collaborate with the State Health Planning and Development Agency on policy changes needed to achieve the goal of universal health insurance coverage for children.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 39 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1821 Finance on H.R. No. 62

The purpose of this measure is to request the Office of the State Fire Marshal to convene a vegetation management working group to study, evaluate, and make recommendations for regulations that define property owner obligations for vegetation management on public and private property to mitigate wildfire risk, and make recommendations that define a line clearance tree trimmer and establish minimum safety standards, training, and qualifications for individuals performing life clearance tree trimming at or near electric utility facilities.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 62, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1822 Finance on H.C.R. No. 69

The purpose of this measure is to request the Office of the State Fire Marshal to convene a vegetation management working group to study, evaluate, and make recommendations for regulations that define property owner obligations for vegetation management on public and private property to mitigate wildfire risk, and make recommendations that define a line clearance tree trimmer and establish minimum safety standards, training, and qualifications for individuals performing life clearance tree trimming at or near electric utility facilities.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 69, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1823 Finance on H.R. No. 117

The purpose of this measure is to request the United States Department of Defense, United States Army, United States Navy, and State Department of Transportation to work with appropriate state and county departments and agencies to expand, plan, and coordinate work related to using Kolekole Pass as an expanded emergency exit route.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 117 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1824 Finance on H.C.R. No. 121

The purpose of this measure is to request the United States Department of Defense, United States Army, United States Navy, and State Department of Transportation to work with appropriate state and county departments and agencies to expand, plan, and coordinate work related to using Kolekole pass as an expanded emergency exit route.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 121 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1825 Finance on H.C.R. No. 35

The purpose of this measure is to request the Auditor to assess the social and financial effects of mandatory health insurance coverage for biomarker testing.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 35 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1826 Finance on H.C.R. No. 171

The purpose of this measure is to request the Auditor to assess the social and financial effects of proposed mandatory health insurance coverage for continuous glucose monitors.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 171 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1827 Finance on H.C.R. No. 78

The purpose of this measure is to declare the intent that projects with housing units that qualify for housing credits under Act 31, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, are still eligible to receive housing credits after the repeal of that Act if the housing projects were approved by the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation before July 1, 2031, and requesting the Corporation and each county to include certain information when approving housing projects for housing credits.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 78 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Reyes Oda, Ward).

SCRep. 1828 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.R. No. 98

The purpose of this measure is to implement without statutory changes a limited accommodation that could benefit timeshare sales and tourism in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism; and in opposition to this measure from Hawaii Real Estate Commission.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Replacing the title of this Resolution to read "HOUSE RESOLUTION STRONGLY URGING THE REAL ESTATE COMMISSION TO ALLOW FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE REAL ESTATE SALESPERSON'S EXAMINATION IN THE JAPANESE LANGUAGE FOR PURPOSES OF ISSUING A LIMITED REAL ESTATE SALESPERSON'S LICENSE, FOR THE SALE OF TIMESHARE PRODUCTS IN HAWAII, TO JAPANESE NATIONAL VISITORS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENHANCING JAPAN'S INVOLVEMENT IN AND SUPPORT OF THE HAWAII TOURISM INDUSTRY.";
- (2) Amending clauses in accordance with the amended title; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 98, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 98, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 2 (Iwamoto, Pierick). Excused, 2 (Ilgan, Tam).

SCRep. 1829 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.C.R. No. 102

The purpose of this measure is to implement without statutory changes a limited accommodation that could benefit timeshare sales and tourism in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaii Real Estate Commission and Hawaii First Realty.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Replacing the title of this Concurrent Resolution to read "HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION STRONGLY URGING THE REAL ESTATE COMMISSION TO ALLOW FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE REAL ESTATE SALESPERSON'S EXAMINATION IN THE JAPANESE LANGUAGE FOR PURPOSES OF ISSUING A LIMITED REAL ESTATE SALESPERSON'S LICENSE, FOR THE SALE OF TIMESHARE PRODUCTS IN HAWAII, TO JAPANESE NATIONAL VISITORS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENHANCING JAPAN'S INVOLVEMENT IN AND SUPPORT OF THE HAWAII TOURISM INDUSTRY."
- (2) Amending clauses in accordance with the amended title; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 102, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 102, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 2 (Iwamoto, Pierick). Excused, 2 (Ilgan, Tam).

SCRep. 1830 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.R. No. 38

The purpose of this measure is to facilitate a comprehensive approach to motor carrier oversight that is in the best interest of the industry and of the public.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission, and in opposition to this measure from Hawaii Transportation Association.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 38, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ilagan, Tam, Pierick).

SCRep. 1831 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.C.R. No. 45

The purpose of this measure is to facilitate a comprehensive approach to motor carrier oversight that is in the best interest of the industry and of the public.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission, and comments from the Hawaii Department of Transportation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 45, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ilagan, Tam, Pierick).

SCRep. 1832 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.R. No. 54

The purpose of this measure is to examine ways to address public opinion on expanding renewable energy and to meet the goal of a one hundred percent renewable energy portfolio standard by the year 2045 under section 269-92, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Division of Consumer Advocacy; Hawaii Public Utilities Commission; Hawaii State Energy Office; Uluopono Initiative; Coalition Earth; Waika Consulting; Sustainable Energy Hawaii; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Energy Justice Network; Students for Justice in Palestine at the University of Hawaii; and from one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 54, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Ilagan, Tam).

SCRep. 1833 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.C.R. No. 58

The purpose of this measure is to examine ways to address public opinion on expanding renewable energy and to meet the goal of a one hundred percent renewable energy portfolio standard by the year 2045 under section 269-92, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Division of Consumer Advocacy; Hawaii Public Utilities Commission; Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Hawaii State Energy Office; Uluopono Initiative; Life of the Land; Coalition Earth; Waika Consulting; Sustainable Energy Hawaii; and from five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii; Students for Justice in Palestine at the University of Hawaii; and from one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 58, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Ilagan, Tam).

SCRep. 1834 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.R. No. 87

The purpose of this measure is to reduce risks of injury and diminished quality of life as well as the prevalence of preventable secondary health conditions which disproportionately affect people with disabilities in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 87 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Ilagan, Tam).

SCRep. 1835 Consumer Protection & Commerce on H.C.R. No. 91

The purpose of this measure is to reduce risks of injury and diminished quality of life as well as the prevalence of preventable secondary health conditions which disproportionately affect people with disabilities in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii and from one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 91 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Ilagan, Tam).

SCRep. 1836 Transportation on H.R. No. 136

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Transportation and Hawaii Tourism Authority to expand the Kahea Airport Greetings Program to display keiki art in all neighbor island airports.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

Your Committee finds that enhancing the visitor experience while preserving and promoting Native Hawaiian culture is a key priority for the State. The Kahea Airport Greetings Program contributes to this goal by providing Hawaiian entertainment, cultural enrichment, and opportunities for students to show their artwork at the Daniel K. Inouye International Airport. Your Committee believes that expanding this program to multiple airports throughout the State will provide equitable opportunities for students, strengthen cultural appreciation, and enhance the overall travel experience in Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 136 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1837 Transportation on H.C.R. No. 142

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Transportation and Hawaii Tourism Authority to expand the Kahea Airport Greetings Program to display keiki art in all neighbor island airports.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

Your Committee finds that enhancing the visitor experience while preserving and promoting Native Hawaiian culture is a key priority for the State. The Kahea Airport Greetings Program contributes to this goal by providing Hawaiian entertainment, cultural enrichment, and opportunities for students to show their artwork at the Daniel K. Inouye International Airport. Your Committee believes that expanding this program to multiple airports throughout the State will provide equitable opportunities for students, strengthen cultural appreciation, and enhance the overall travel experience in Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 142 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1838 Transportation on H.R. No. 63

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Transportation to facilitate and accelerate the adoption of sustainable aviation fuels to decarbonize Hawaii's transportation sector and support the State's climate goals.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Alaska Airlines; Hawaiian Airlines; Par Hawaii; Coalition Earth; Island Energy Services, LLC; Pono Pacific; and Hawai'i Renewable Fuels Coalition. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i and Energy Justice Network.

Your Committee finds that the transportation sector is the largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in the State, accounting for nearly half of the Hawaii's total emissions. Aviation, which plays a critical role in tourism, commerce, and interisland travel, is a significant source of these emissions, making it essential to find sustainable alternatives to conventional jet fuel. This measure aims to further the State's commitment to achieving net-zero transportation goals and ensure the long-term sustainability of the State's economy and environment.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 63, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 1 (Muraoka). Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1839 Transportation on H.C.R. No. 70

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Transportation to facilitate and accelerate the adoption of sustainable aviation fuels to decarbonize Hawaii's transportation sector and support the State's climate goals.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Life of the Land; Alaska Airlines; Hawaiian Airlines; Par Hawaii; Island Energy Services, LLC; Hawai'i Renewable Fuels Coalition; Pono Pacific; and Coalition Earth. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i and Energy Justice Network.

Your Committee finds that the transportation sector is the largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in the State, accounting for nearly half of the Hawaii's total emissions. Aviation, which plays a critical role in tourism, commerce, and interisland travel, is a significant source of these emissions, making it essential to find sustainable alternatives to conventional jet fuel. This measure aims to further the State's commitment to achieving net-zero transportation goals and ensure the long-term sustainability of the State's economy and environment.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 70, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 1 (Muraoka). Excused, 2 (Cochran, Pierick).

SCRep. 1840 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.R. No. 29

The purpose of this measure is that each county police department is requested to increase enforcement against out-of-state vehicles operating on public roadways that have not been properly registered in the appropriate county.

Your Committee received testimony in support for this measure from the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that enforcement against out-of-state vehicles operating without proper registration ensures compliance with safety and environmental standards. It promotes fairness, protects local revenue, and maintains road safety, while encouraging visitors to respect local regulations, ultimately benefiting public infrastructure, and equitably supporting residents and communities.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 29 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1841 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.C.R. No. 30

The purpose of this measure is that each county police department is requested to increase enforcement against out-of-state vehicles operating on public roadways that have not been properly registered in the appropriate county.

Your Committee received testimony in support for this measure from the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that enforcement against out-of-state vehicles operating without proper registration ensures compliance with safety and environmental standards. It promotes fairness, protects local revenue, and maintains road safety, while encouraging visitors to respect local regulations, ultimately benefiting public infrastructure, and equitably supporting residents and communities.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 30 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1842 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.R. No. 115

The purpose of this measure is related to strengthening the relationship between Taiwan and the State of Hawaii, as well as promoting Taiwan's participation in international affairs. The resolution endorses Taiwan's involvement in global organizations, supports a trade agreement between the U.S. and Taiwan, and commemorates the longstanding partnership between Hawaii and Taiwan.

Your Committee received no testimony for this measure.

Your Committee finds that Taiwan's international participation is vital for global stability and economic growth. Supporting a U.S.-Taiwan bilateral trade agreement enhances trade relations, benefiting both nations. Additionally, this resolution commemorates the longstanding relationships and exchanges between Hawaii and Taiwan, strengthening cultural, economic, and diplomatic ties that benefit Hawaii's diverse communities and economy.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 115, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1843 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.C.R. No. 119

The purpose of this measure is related to strengthening the relationship between Taiwan and the State of Hawaii, as well as promoting Taiwan's participation in international affairs. The resolution endorses Taiwan's involvement in global organizations, supports a trade agreement between the U.S. and Taiwan, and commemorates the longstanding partnership between Hawaii and Taiwan.

Your Committee received testimony in support for this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.

Your Committee finds that Taiwan's international participation is vital for global stability and economic growth. Supporting a U.S.-Taiwan bilateral trade agreement enhances trade relations, benefiting both nations. Additionally, this resolution commemorates the longstanding relationships and exchanges between Hawaii and Taiwan, strengthening cultural, economic, and diplomatic ties that benefit Hawaii's diverse communities and economy.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 119, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1844 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.R. No. 65

The purpose of this measure is that the ethics commission of each county are urged to adopt standards that are applicable to state elected officials and officers as adopted and enforced by the State Ethics Commission.

Your committee received testimony in support for this measure from two individuals.

Your Committee finds that adopting standards similar to those enforced by the State Ethics Commission will promote transparency, accountability, and ethical conduct at the county level. Ensuring consistent ethical guidelines across state and county levels strengthens public trust and fosters responsible governance by elected officials and officers.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 65 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1845 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.C.R. No. 72

The purpose of this measure is that the ethics commission of each county are urged to adopt standards that are applicable to state elected officials and officers as adopted and enforced by the State Ethics Commission.

Your Committee received testimony in support for this measure from four individuals.

Your Committee finds that adopting standards similar to those enforced by the State Ethics Commission will promote transparency, accountability, and ethical conduct at the county level. Ensuring consistent ethical guidelines across state and county levels strengthens public trust and fosters responsible governance by elected officials and officers.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 72 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1846 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.R. No. 105

The purpose of this measure is to support free and responsible scholastic journalism in Hawaii schools and ensuring that student journalists can exercise their First Amendment rights without unnecessary restrictions. The resolution addresses concerns about the use of student names and photos in school-sponsored media like yearbooks, newspapers, and other student publications.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from The Student Press Law Center and from several individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition from one individual.

Your Committee finds that supporting free and responsible scholastic journalism is essential for fostering critical thinking, free expression, and civic engagement among students. Honoring the First Amendment ensures that student publications can operate without undue censorship, encouraging a culture of transparency and accountability.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 105, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia, Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1847 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.C.R. No. 109

The purpose of this measure is to support free and responsible scholastic journalism in Hawaii schools and ensuring that student journalists can exercise their First Amendment rights without unnecessary restrictions. The resolution addresses concerns about the use of student names and photos in school-sponsored media like yearbooks, newspapers, and other student publications.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Society of Professional Journalists Hawaii Chapter; and from several individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition of this measure from Free Citizens of Maunaloa and from one individual.

Your Committee finds that supporting free and responsible scholastic journalism is essential for fostering critical thinking, free expression, and civic engagement among students. Honoring the First Amendment ensures that student publications can operate without undue censorship, encouraging a culture of transparency and accountability.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 109, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia, Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1848 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.R. No. 51

The purpose of this measure is to request the Judiciary to conduct a study on the effectiveness of existing laws related to domestic violence temporary restraining orders (TROs) and harassment by stalking. The purpose of this study is to assess how well these legal protections are preventing continued abuse and harassment, and to identify areas for improvement.

Your Committee received testimony in support for this measure from the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women; Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; and from two individuals. Your Committee received testimony for this measure in opposition from the Judiciary. Your Committee received testimony with comments for this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney.

Your Committee finds that the effectiveness of domestic violence temporary restraining orders (TROs) and harassment by stalking laws is critical in protecting victims from continued abuse. While these legal measures are intended to provide immediate relief and prevent further harm, concerns remain regarding their enforcement, accessibility, and overall impact on victim safety.

By evaluating enforcement practices, survivor experiences, and case outcomes, this study can inform future legislative efforts to strengthen legal safeguards, improve law enforcement training, and ensure better access to justice for survivors of domestic violence and stalking.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the Judiciary convene a working group consisting of the following members or their designee:
 - a. Each county's law enforcement agency;
 - b. Each county's prosecuting attorney;
 - c. The Executive Director of the Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women;
 - d. The Executive Director of the Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence;
 - e. A nonprofit organization serving victims of domestic violence and stalking; and
 - f. a victim of domestic violence and/or stalking from each county; and
- (2) Include Protective Orders in Addition to Temporary Restraining Orders (TROs); and
- (3) Extend the reporting date to 2026; and
- (4) Including Neighbor Islands and Victim Voices
- (5) Making technical nonsubstantive amendments to the proposed amendments for consistency, clarity, and style.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 51, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 51, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1849 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.C.R. No. 55

The purpose of this measure is to request the Judiciary to conduct a study on the effectiveness of existing laws related to domestic violence temporary restraining orders (TROs) and harassment by stalking. The purpose of this study is to assess how well these legal protections are preventing continued abuse and harassment, and to identify areas for improvement.

Your Committee received testimony in support for this measure from the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women; Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence and from two individuals. Your Committee received testimony for this measure in opposition from the Judiciary. Your Committee received comments for this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney.

Your Committee finds that the effectiveness of domestic violence temporary restraining orders (TROs) and harassment by stalking laws is critical in protecting victims from continued abuse. While these legal measures are intended to provide immediate relief and prevent further harm, concerns remain regarding their enforcement, accessibility, and overall impact on victim safety.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

(1) Requesting the Judiciary convene a working group consisting of the following members or their designee:

- a. Each county's law enforcement agency;
- b. Each county's prosecuting attorney;
- c. The Executive Director of the Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women;
- d. The Executive Director of the Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence;
- e. A nonprofit organization serving victims of domestic violence and stalking; and
- f. a victim of domestic violence and/or stalking from each county; and

(2) Include Protective Orders in Addition to Temporary Restraining Orders (TROs); and

(3) Extend the reporting date to 2026; and

(1) Including Neighbor Islands and Victim Voices

(2) Making technical nonsubstantive amendments to the proposed amendments for consistency, clarity, and style.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 55, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 55, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1850 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.R. No. 186

The purpose of this measure is to request the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to convene a working group to examine the possibility of transferring the management of Native Hawaiian burial sites from the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) to OHA. The working group is tasked with making recommendations on how to enhance the effectiveness of the burial sites program, addressing issues in legislation, and potentially improving the process for protecting Native Hawaiian burial sites.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from seven individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition of this measure from two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the protection of Native Hawaiian burial sites is a critical cultural and historical responsibility. Convening a working group to explore transferring management from SHPD to OHA will help assess how to enhance oversight, improve legislative frameworks, and strengthen burial site protections. This effort seeks to ensure that stewardship aligns with Native Hawaiian values and community priorities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by editing the community membership provision at page 5 line 31-35 by:

- (1) Striking out language that reads "that self-identify and represent unique Native Hawaiian Organizations"; and
- (2) Adding in language to read "including but not limited to recognized lineal and cultural descendants, who self-identify and submit their names for selection by a majority"; and
- (3) Striking out the language that reads "to be selected randomly by the working group from a list of submitted names".

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 186, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 186, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1851 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.C.R. No. 193

The purpose of this measure is to request the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to convene a working group to examine the possibility of transferring the management of Native Hawaiian burial sites from the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) to OHA. The working group is tasked with making recommendations on how to enhance the effectiveness of the burial sites program, addressing issues in legislation, and potentially improving the process for protecting Native Hawaiian burial sites.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Ko'olauloa Civic Club; the Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and from twelve individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition of this measure from two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the protection of Native Hawaiian burial sites is a critical cultural and historical responsibility. Convening a working group to explore transferring management from SHPD to OHA will help assess how to enhance oversight, improve legislative frameworks, and strengthen burial site protections. This effort seeks to ensure that stewardship aligns with Native Hawaiian values and community priorities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by editing the community membership provision at page 5 line 31-35 by:

- (1) Striking out language that reads "that self-identify and represent unique Native Hawaiian Organizations"; and
- (2) Adding in language to read "including but not limited to recognized lineal and cultural descendants, who self-identify and submit their names for selection by a majority"; and
- (3) Striking out the language that reads "to be selected randomly by the working group from a list of submitted names".

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 193, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 193, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1852 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.R. No. 147

The purpose of this measure is that a legislative working group consisting of 7 House Representatives be established for the continued oversight over the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' execution of Act 279 funds. The Speaker of the House of Representatives may amend the membership of the working group as deemed necessary. The working group is requested to submit a progress report of its findings and recommendations to the House of Representatives no later than twenty days prior to the commencement of the Regular Session of 2026, and a final report of its findings and any recommendations no later than twenty days before the commencement of the Regular Session of 2027 and cease to exist on January 1, 2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i and from one individual.

Your Committee finds that continued legislative oversight is essential to ensure the effective and transparent execution of Act 279 funds by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. Establishing a working group of House Representatives will provide accountability, monitor progress, and assess challenges. Requiring progress and final reports will help guide future legislative actions to support the department's mission and the needs of Native Hawaiian beneficiaries.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing Representative Gene Ward and replacing with Representative Diamond Garcia; and
- (2) Striking out the Eighteenth District and adding in the Forty-Second district.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 147, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 147, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1853 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.C.R. No. 23

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR) to consider certain factors in the planning and design of the new Oahu Community Correctional Center (OCCC) in Halawa. This measure seeks to improve efficiency, reduce transportation costs, and address public safety concerns in the planning and operation of the new Oahu Community Correctional Center.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; and Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission; and the Office of the Public Defender.

Your Committee finds that the relocation and modernization of the Oahu Community Correctional Center (OCCC) presents an opportunity to enhance public safety and streamline judicial processes. Including a circuit and district court facility within the new OCCC would improve efficiency by reducing inmate transport risks and costs. Additionally, establishing a structured release procedure to transport released individuals to designated locations, rather than residential communities or public spaces, will help mitigate concerns about community safety and homelessness.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 23, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1854 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.C.R. No. 43

The purpose of this measure is that the Department of Law Enforcement and Department of Transportation are requested to study the possibility of a highway patrol and the installation of speed cameras along major freeways and highways in primary areas of speeding, including the impact this measure would have on the district courts.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization. Your Committee received testimony in opposition of this measure from three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary and the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee finds that speeding on major highways poses significant safety risks. This resolution requests a study on the feasibility of highway patrol and speed cameras in high-risk areas, aiming to improve road safety while evaluating the impact on district courts, ensuring effective enforcement and resource management.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 43, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1855 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.C.R. No. 180

The purpose of this measure is to request various agencies and organizations in Hawaii to work collaboratively to address homelessness in the state. The resolution highlights the critical issue of homelessness in Hawaii, emphasizing the need for a coordinated and effective approach involving multiple stakeholders to improve the well-being of individuals experiencing homelessness and to address the associated public health, safety, and environmental concerns.

Your committee received testimony in support for this measure from the Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i and from 3 individuals. Your Committee received comments for this measure from the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions.

Your Committee finds that homelessness remains a critical issue in Hawaii, requiring a coordinated, multi-agency approach to develop effective solutions. Collaboration among state agencies, nonprofit organizations, and community partners will enhance efforts to improve housing stability, public health, and safety. By fostering strategic partnerships and resource-sharing, this measure aims to create sustainable, long-term solutions that address the root causes of homelessness and support those in need.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 180, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1856 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.C.R. No. 185

The purpose of this measure is to request the State Auditor to conduct a social and financial assessment of a proposed policy to mandate health insurance coverage for Native Hawaiian healing and cultural practices offered through Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). This assessment is in response to House Bill No. 641, which proposes expanding existing health insurance mandates to include such practices.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i. Your committee received comments for this measure from Papa Ola Lokahi.

Your Committee finds that Native Hawaiian healing and cultural practices play a vital role in holistic healthcare and community well-being. Assessing the social and financial impacts of mandatory insurance coverage for these services at federally qualified health centers will help determine feasibility, benefits, and potential cost savings. This study supports equitable healthcare access while recognizing the cultural and therapeutic value of traditional healing practices.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 185 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Perruso). Noes, 1 (Belatti). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1857 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.R. No. 170

The purpose of this measure is that the Department of Human Services Office of Youth Services and Juvenile Justice State Advisory Council are requested to examine the availability and utilization of aina-based learning programs offered to youth in the juvenile legal system and are requested to create and disseminate a list of organizations employing aina-based learning that the courts may use to assign community service to minors in the family court system.

Your Committee received testimony in support for this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Debt Free Justice Hawai'i; Nā'Ōpio Waiwai; Ekolu Mea Nui; and Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i and ACLU of Hawaii. Your Committee received comments for this measure from the Department of Human Services Office of Youth Services.

Your Committee finds that 'āina-based learning programs provide culturally grounded, restorative opportunities for youth in the juvenile legal system. Examining their availability and utilization will help assess their impact on rehabilitation, recidivism reduction, and community reintegration. Supporting these programs aligns with efforts to offer alternative, place-based education that fosters personal growth, responsibility, and a deeper connection to the land and culture.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 170, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1858 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.C.R. No. 174

The purpose of this measure is that the Department of Human Services Office of Youth Services and Juvenile Justice State Advisory Council are requested to examine the availability and utilization of aina-based learning programs offered to youth in the juvenile legal system and are requested to create and disseminate a list of organizations employing aina-based learning that the courts may use to assign community service to minors in the family court system.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Health Committee of the Democratic Party; Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i; ACLU of Hawaii; Debt Free Hawaii Justice and from one individual. Your Committee received comments for this measure from the Department of Human Services, Office of Youth Services.

Your Committee finds that 'āina-based learning programs provide culturally grounded, restorative opportunities for youth in the juvenile legal system. Examining their availability and utilization will help assess their impact on rehabilitation, recidivism reduction, and community reintegration. Supporting these programs aligns with efforts to offer alternative, place-based education that fosters personal growth, responsibility, and a deeper connection to the land and culture.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 174, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1859 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.R. No. 153

The purpose of this measure is to request the Judiciary to convene a working group that will focus on improving the landlord-tenant code in Hawaii with the goal of increasing the availability of rental housing and improving the interactions between landlords and tenants.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary.

Your Committee finds that clarifying and strengthening landlord-tenant laws will help sustain Hawaii's rental housing market, while also fostering collaboration among key stakeholders to address related issues.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 153, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1860 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.C.R. No. 158

The purpose of this measure is to request the Judiciary to convene a working group that will focus on improving the landlord-tenant code in Hawaii with the goal of increasing the availability of rental housing and improving the interactions between landlords and tenants.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary and Hawaii Realtors.

Your Committee finds that clarifying and strengthening landlord-tenant laws will help sustain Hawaii's rental housing market, while also fostering collaboration among key stakeholders to address related issues.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 158, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1861 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.R. No. 8

The purpose of this measure is to urge the United States Department of Justice to include Hawaii in the Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons Regional Outreach Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support for this measure from the Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women; and from three individuals.

Your Committee finds that including Hawaii in the Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons Regional Outreach Program will provide vital resources and support for addressing cases involving Indigenous people. This inclusion ensures better access to federal assistance, raises awareness, and enhances efforts to resolve missing persons and homicide cases in Hawaii.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 8 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1862 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.C.R. No. 8

The purpose of this measure is to urge the United States Department of Justice to include Hawaii in the Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons Regional Outreach Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support for this measure from the Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women; and from three individuals.

Your Committee finds that including Hawaii in the Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons Regional Outreach Program will provide vital resources and support for addressing cases involving Indigenous people. This inclusion ensures better access to federal assistance, raises awareness, and enhances efforts to resolve missing persons and homicide cases in Hawaii.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 8 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1863 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.R. No. 120

The purpose of this measure is that the Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language of the University of Hawaii at Manoa, through its I Hoa na Moolelo Project, is encouraged to provide Kaiapuni students and families with Hawaiian language and literacy resources and to create opportunities for 'Olelo Hawaii to flourish in homes and communities.

Your Committee received no testimony for this measure.

Your Committee finds that promoting the Hawaiian language and culture is essential for preserving Hawaii's heritage and identity. Encouraging the Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language to expand learning resources and opportunities strengthens cultural understanding and ensures the revitalization of the Hawaiian language.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 120, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1864 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.C.R. No. 124

The purpose of this measure is that the Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language of the University of Hawaii at Manoa, through its I Hoa na Moolelo Project, is encouraged to provide Kaiapuni students and families with Hawaiian language and literacy resources and to create opportunities for 'Olelo Hawaii to flourish in homes and communities.

Your Committee received testimony in support for this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that promoting the Hawaiian language and culture is essential for preserving Hawaii's heritage and identity. Encouraging the Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language to expand learning resources and opportunities strengthens cultural understanding and ensures the revitalization of the Hawaiian language.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 124, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1865 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.R. No. 96

The purpose of this measure is to ensure that mandatory harassment and discrimination training in Hawai'i is conducted by individuals or groups with demonstrated competency in LGBTQ+ identities and culturally specific gender identities. This will promote inclusivity, prevent discrimination, and create safer, more equitable workplaces for all employees.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition from one individual.

Your Committee finds that effective harassment and discrimination training requires cultural and identity competency. Many LGBTQ+ individuals in Hawai'i face unique challenges related to gender identity and cultural context. Ensuring trainers demonstrate adequate knowledge of LGBTQ+ identities, including culturally specific aspects relevant to Hawai'i, will improve workplace safety, inclusivity, and compliance. This resolution supports equitable and meaningful training that reflects the diverse identities and lived experiences of Hawai'i's workforce.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 96 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1866 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on H.C.R. No. 100

The purpose of this measure is to ensure that mandatory harassment and discrimination training in Hawai'i is conducted by individuals or groups with demonstrated competency in LGBTQ+ identities and culturally specific gender identities. This will promote inclusivity, prevent discrimination, and create safer, more equitable workplaces for all employees.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Hawaii State LGBTQ+ Commission; Hawaii State Civil Rights Commission; Pride at Work Hawai'i; and from two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition from one individual.

The Committee finds that effective harassment and discrimination training requires cultural and identity competency. Many LGBTQ+ individuals in Hawai'i face unique challenges related to gender identity and cultural context. Ensuring trainers demonstrate adequate knowledge of LGBTQ+ identities, including culturally specific aspects relevant to Hawai'i, will improve workplace safety, inclusivity, and compliance. This resolution supports equitable and meaningful training that reflects the diverse identities and lived experiences of Hawai'i's workforce.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 100 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1867 Education on H.R. No. 125

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Transportation, Department of Education, and Department of Transportation of the County of Maui to collaborate to propose viable solutions to improve pedestrian and traffic safety and relieve traffic congestion around Haiku Elementary School.

Your Committee received no written testimony on this measure.

Your Committee finds that traffic congestion around Haiku Elementary School is partly due to the school's location and the limited access via one single road, Pauwela Road. Your Committee further finds that there are multiple possible solutions to alleviate traffic congestion around Haiku Elementary School, including establishing an additional pick-up and drop-off location at Haiku Park Community Center and building additional sidewalks near the school. This measure requests state and county departments to collaborate to explore these and other solutions to ensure the safety of students of Haiku Elementary School and other pedestrians.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Maui County Department of Public Works, rather than the Department of Transportation of the County of Maui, is requested to collaborate with the Department of Transportation and Department of Education to propose viable solutions to improve pedestrian and traffic safety and relieve traffic congestion around Haiku Elementary School;
- (2) Directing a certified copy of this measure to the Director of Maui County Department of Public Works, rather than the Director of Transportation of the County of Maui;
- (3) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 125, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 125, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Woodson, Amato).

SCRep. 1868 Education on H.C.R. No. 129

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Transportation, Department of Education, and Department of Transportation of the County of Maui to collaborate to propose viable solutions to improve pedestrian and traffic safety and relieve traffic congestion around Haiku Elementary School.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that traffic congestion around Haiku Elementary School is partly due to the school's location and the limited access via one single road, Pauwela Road. Your Committee further finds that there are multiple possible solutions to alleviate traffic congestion around Haiku Elementary School, including establishing an additional pick-up and drop-off location at Haiku Park Community Center and building additional sidewalks near the school. This measure requests state and county departments to collaborate to explore these and other solutions to ensure the safety of students of Haiku Elementary School and other pedestrians.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Maui County Department of Public Works, rather than the Department of Transportation of the County of Maui, is requested to collaborate with the Department of Transportation and Department of Education to propose viable solutions to improve pedestrian and traffic safety and relieve traffic congestion around Haiku Elementary School;
- (2) Directing a certified copy of this measure to the Director of Maui County Department of Public Works, rather than the Director of Transportation of the County of Maui;
- (3) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 129, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 129, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Woodson, Amato).

SCRep. 1869 Education on H.R. No. 131

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Transportation, Department of Education, and City and County of Honolulu to implement visibility enhancement measures on the Kuahelani Avenue crosswalk at Kipapa Elementary School.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that Kipapa Elementary School features a particularly dangerous crosswalk in a high traffic area on Kuahelani Avenue. While the crosswalk features painted stripes and crossing guards, these measures are insufficient to protect against the dangers of the road. Your Committee notes that the Federal Highway Administration recommends implementing visibility enhancements, such as signage and lighting, in high traffic areas where standard crosswalks are insufficient. Your Committee believes that Kipapa Elementary School's Kuahelani crosswalk would significantly benefit from the visibility enhancement measures recommended by the Federal Highway Administration.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 131, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Woodson, Amato).

SCRep. 1870 Education on H.C.R. No. 137

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Transportation, Department of Education, and City and County of Honolulu to implement visibility enhancement measures on the Kuahelani Avenue crosswalk at Kipapa Elementary School.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that Kipapa Elementary School features a particularly dangerous crosswalk in a high traffic area on Kuahelani Avenue. While the crosswalk features painted stripes and crossing guards, these measures are insufficient to protect against the dangers of the road. Your Committee notes that the Federal Highway Administration recommends implementing visibility enhancements, such as signage and lighting, in high traffic areas where standard crosswalks are insufficient. Your Committee believes that Kipapa Elementary School's Kuahelani crosswalk would significantly benefit from the visibility enhancement measures recommended by the Federal Highway Administration.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 137, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Woodson, Amato).

SCRep. 1871 Education on H.R. No. 169

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Health to undertake preliminary education, outreach, and vaccination drive efforts at schools in Hawaii with vaccination rates under thirty percent, beginning at the start of the 2025-2026 school year.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i – American Nurses Association; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Patriot Republicans; Hawai'i Christian Coalition; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that increasing community access to vaccines is an essential part of any public health plan to increase vaccination rates. Your Committee further finds that data from the Department of Health shows a concerning drop in vaccination rates across the State's public, charter, and private schools, with some private schools having non-vaccination rates in excess of sixty percent. Your Committee believes that a vaccination education program that utilizes the State's unique cultural context would be beneficial to the public health of students of Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Urging the Department of Health to partner with community health centers and local healthcare providers in providing preliminary education, outreach, and vaccination drive efforts at schools in Hawaii;
- (2) Inserting language describing the critical role that community health centers play in providing accessible, affordable, and culturally competent healthcare services, including vaccinations, to underserved communities and school-aged children;
- (3) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 169, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 169, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Kila). Noes, 1 (Muraoka). Excused, 2 (Woodson, Amato).

SCRep. 1872 Education on H.C.R. No. 173

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Health to undertake preliminary education, outreach, and vaccination drive efforts at schools in Hawaii with vaccination rates under thirty percent, beginning at the start of the 2025-2026 school year.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Department of Health; Hawai'i – American Nurses Association; Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Free Citizens of Maunaloa; Hawaiian Islands Republican Women; Hawaii Patriot Republicans; Hawai'i Christian Coalition; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that increasing community access to vaccines is an essential part of any public health plan to increase vaccination rates. Your Committee further finds that data from the Department of Health shows a concerning drop in vaccination rates across the State's public, charter, and private schools, with some private schools having non-vaccination rates in excess of sixty percent. Your Committee believes that a vaccination education program that utilizes the State's unique cultural context would be beneficial to the public health of students of Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Urging the Department of Health to partner with community health centers and local healthcare providers in providing preliminary education, outreach, and vaccination drive efforts at schools in Hawaii;
- (2) Inserting language describing the critical role that community health centers play in providing accessible, affordable, and culturally competent healthcare services, including vaccinations, to underserved communities and school-aged children;
- (3) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 173, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 173, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Kila). Noes, 1 (Muraoka). Excused, 2 (Woodson, Amato).

SCRep. 1873 Health on H.R. No. 92

The purpose of this measure is to encourage the University of Hawaii to evaluate and expand its current mental health services for students.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that a student's mental health and well-being is critical for academic success. Your Committee further finds that although the University of Hawaii provides mental health services for students, recent assessments and student feedback indicate that there is an increased demand for these services. This measure encourages the University of Hawaii to expand its existing student mental health services to ensure all students within the University of Hawaii System have access to comprehensive mental health support.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 92 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1874 Health on H.C.R. No. 96

The purpose of this measure is to encourage the University of Hawaii to evaluate and expand its current mental health services for students.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that a student's mental health and well-being is critical for academic success. Your Committee further finds that although the University of Hawaii provides mental health services for students, recent assessments and student feedback indicate that there is an increased demand for these services. This measure encourages the University of Hawaii to expand its existing student mental health services to ensure all students within the University of Hawaii System have access to comprehensive mental health support.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 96 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1875 Health on H.R. No. 139

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Education, Department of Health, and other relevant stakeholders to collaborate and develop a strategic plan to prepare for Hawaii's pursuit of funding for and participation in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's public health surveillance for estimating autism prevalence.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; BAYDA; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Pakolea Support Services; Mau Loa Learning LLC; Full Life; Balanced ABA; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that autism affects one in thirty-six children in the United States, which is a significant increase from the 2000 autism prevalence estimate of one in one hundred forty-nine children. Your Committee further finds that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Network is the primary source of autism prevalence data in the United States. However, despite research indicating that Asians, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders have a higher prevalence of autism, Hawaii has not been included in the national surveillance effort. This measure seeks to address this oversight by urging the Department of Education, Department of Health, and other relevant stakeholders to prepare a strategic plan to enable the State to participate in public health surveillance for estimating autism prevalence.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 139 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1876 Health on H.C.R. No. 145

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Education, Department of Health, and other relevant stakeholders to collaborate and develop a strategic plan to prepare for Hawaii's pursuit of funding for and participation in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's public health surveillance for estimating autism prevalence.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Free Citizens of Maunaloa; Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; BAYDA; Early Childhood Action Strategy; Hawai'i Association for Behavior Analysis; Pakolea Support Services; Mau Loa Learning LLC; Full Life; Balanced ABA; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that autism affects one in thirty-six children in the United States, which is a significant increase from the 2000 autism prevalence estimate of one in one hundred forty-nine children. Your Committee further finds that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Network is the primary source of autism prevalence data in the United States. However, despite research indicating that Asians, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders have a higher prevalence of autism, Hawaii has not been included in the national surveillance effort. This measure seeks to address this oversight by urging the Department of Education, Department of Health, and other relevant stakeholders to prepare a strategic plan to enable the State to participate in public health surveillance for estimating autism prevalence.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 145 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1877 Health on H.R. No. 179

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Education, in collaboration with the Department of Health and State Public Charter School Commission, to conduct a study on the practices of managing heat exposure in Department and charter schools to protect student's health during outdoor activities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Climate Change and Health Working Group; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that rising air temperatures and Hawaii's high average relative humidity pose a significant challenge to human thermoregulation, particularly for individuals exercising outdoors where high humidity reduces the efficacy of the body's ability to cool itself through sweating. Your Committee further finds that children and younger athletes are particularly vulnerable to exertional heat illness as they have reduced thermoregulation capabilities and slower heat acclimatization compared to adults and are often unable to control the timing and conditions of outdoor activities, such as recess and individual or team practices, and may have limited access to hydration during these activities. This measure seeks to improve student health by requesting the Department of Education, in collaboration with appropriate stakeholders, to conduct a study on heat exposure management practices in Department and charter schools.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 179 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1878 Health on H.C.R. No. 186

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Education, in collaboration with the Department of Health and State Public Charter School Commission, to conduct a study on the practices of managing heat exposure in Department and charter schools to protect student's health during outdoor activities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Department of Health; Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that rising air temperatures and Hawaii's high average relative humidity pose a significant challenge to human thermoregulation, particularly for individuals exercising outdoors where high humidity reduces the efficacy of the body's ability to cool itself through sweating. Your Committee further finds that children and younger athletes are particularly vulnerable to exertional heat illness as they have reduced thermoregulation capabilities and slower heat acclimatization compared to adults and are often unable to control the timing and conditions of outdoor activities, such as recess and individual or team practices, and may have limited access to hydration during these activities. This measure seeks to improve student health by requesting the Department of Education, in collaboration with appropriate stakeholders, to conduct a study on heat exposure management practices in Department and charter schools.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 186 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 1879 Health on H.R. No. 182

The purpose of this measure is to declare a public health emergency relating to climate change and requesting statewide coordination to identify, plan for, and create cross-sector solutions to strengthen Hawaii's public health response to climate crisis.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Life of the Land; Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Public Health Association; Coalition Earth; 350Hawaii.org; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Hawaii Climate Change and Health Working Group; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that the effects of climate change, such as increased heat, crop failures, food and water insecurity, extreme weather events, vector-borne and waterborne diseases, seriously impact public health and constitute a public health emergency. Your Committee further finds that addressing the

impacts of climate change on public health will require a multi-disciplinary approach and statewide coordination, commitment, and mobilization of resources between departments. This measure acknowledges the severity of the impacts climate change has on the health of Hawaii's people and calls on the various state departments to identify, plan for, and create cross-sector solutions to strengthen the State's public health response to the climate crisis.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 182, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 182, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 2 (Alcos, Garcia). Excused, none.

SCRep. 1880 Health on H.C.R. No. 188

The purpose of this measure is to declare a public health emergency relating to climate change and requesting statewide coordination to identify, plan for, and create cross-sector solutions to strengthen Hawaii's public health response to climate crisis.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Life of the Land; Climate Protectors Hawaii; Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Public Health Association; Coalition Earth; 350Hawaii.org; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Hawaii Climate Change and Health Working Group; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that the effects of climate change, such as increased heat, crop failures, food and water insecurity, extreme weather events, vector-borne and waterborne diseases, seriously impact public health and constitute a public health emergency. Your Committee further finds that addressing the impacts of climate change on public health will require a multi-disciplinary approach and statewide coordination, commitment, and mobilization of resources between departments. This measure acknowledges the severity of the impacts climate change has on the health of Hawaii's people and calls on the various state departments to identify, plan for, and create cross-sector solutions to strengthen the State's public health response to the climate crisis.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 188, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 188, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 2 (Alcos, Garcia). Excused, none.

SCRep. 1881 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.R. No. 191

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Forestry and Wildlife to prioritize the restoration and protection of additional wetlands and anchialine pools.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Kihei Community Association; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that wetlands are a vital part of Hawaii's environment and ecosystem, serving as natural filters for stream, storm, and urban runoff and providing natural habitats for flora, fauna, and endangered species. Your Committee further finds that anchialine pools are aquatic ecosystems that are home to rare, endangered species and support coral reef and ocean health. This measure encourages the protection and environmental health of wetlands and anchialine pools in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Department of Land and Natural Resources, not its Division of Forestry and Wildlife, is urged to prioritize the restoration and protection of additional wetlands;
- (2) Clarifying that the Division of Aquatic Resources, rather than the Division of Agricultural Resources, of the Department of Land and Natural Resources is urged to apply protective policies afforded to wetlands to the State's anchialine pools;
- (3) Clarifying that the County of Maui is requested to ensure that the protection of wetlands, especially wetlands in Kihei, Maui, is prioritized over development concerns;
- (4) Amending the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure;
- (5) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 191, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 191, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 1882 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.C.R. No. 199

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Forestry and Wildlife to prioritize the restoration and protection of additional wetlands and anchialine pools.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Kihei Community Association; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that wetlands are a vital part of Hawaii's environment and ecosystem, serving as natural filters for stream, storm, and urban runoff and providing natural habitats for flora, fauna, and endangered species. Your Committee further finds that anchialine pools are aquatic ecosystems that are home to rare, endangered species and support coral reef and ocean health. This measure encourages the protection and environmental health of wetlands and anchialine pools in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Department of Land and Natural Resources, not its Division of Forestry and Wildlife, is urged to prioritize the restoration and protection of additional wetlands;

- (2) Clarifying that the Division of Aquatic Resources, rather than the Division of Agricultural Resources, of the Department of Land and Natural Resources is urged to apply protective policies afforded to wetlands to the State's anchialine pools;
- (3) Clarifying that the County of Maui is requested to ensure that the protection of wetlands, especially wetlands in Kihei, Maui, is prioritized over development concerns;
- (4) Amending the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure;
- (5) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 199, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 199, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 1883 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.R. No. 27

The purpose of this measure is to request the reconvening of the working group established pursuant to House Resolution No. 18, H.D. 1 (Regular Session of 2024) to continue the efforts to address issues related to water and air contamination and remediation arising from the operation of the Puuloa Range Training Facility.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Green Party of Hawai'i; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Conservation Council for Hawai'i; Small Business Alliance; CountryTalkStory; We Are One, Inc.; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that soil sampling conducted near the Puuloa Range Training Facility, a shooting range used by the United States Marine Corps, identified high levels of lead contamination. Your Committee further finds that a working group that was convened to address the water and air contamination issues arising from the operation of the Puuloa Range Training Facility is set to cease operation on June 30, 2025. This measure ensures that the working group can continue its efforts to address the environmental issues related to the Puuloa Range Training Facility.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 27, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 1884 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.C.R. No. 28

The purpose of this measure is to request the reconvening of the working group established pursuant to House Resolution No. 18, H.D. 1 (Regular Session of 2024) to continue the efforts to address issues related to water and air contamination and remediation arising from the operation of the Puuloa Range Training Facility.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Green Party of Hawai'i; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Conservation Council for Hawai'i; Free Access Coalition; Small Business Alliance; CountryTalkStory; We Are One, Inc.; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that soil sampling conducted near the Puuloa Range Training Facility, a shooting range used by the United States Marine Corps, identified high levels of lead contamination. Your Committee further finds that a working group that was convened to address the water and air contamination issues arising from the operation of the Puuloa Range Training Facility is set to cease operation on June 30, 2025. This measure ensures that the working group can continue its efforts to address the environmental issues related to the Puuloa Range Training Facility.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 28, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 1885 Public Safety on H.R. No. 148

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to incrementally and systematically reduce the number of inmates incarcerated in private, out-of-state correctional facilities.

Your committee received testimony from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation providing comments, and the ACLU Hawaii which strongly supports the resolution and provided comments.

Your committee finds that the State has relied on contracted private, for-profit, out-of-state correctional facilities to house a significant portion of the State's inmate population for more than two decades. Your committee also finds that housing inmates this far away from their families continues to cause adverse effects on their reentry and reintegration back into community.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 148 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1886 Public Safety on H.C.R. No. 153

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to incrementally and systematically reduce the number of inmates incarcerated in private, out-of-state correctional facilities.

Your committee received testimony from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation providing comments, and the ACLU Hawaii which strongly supports the resolution and provided comments.

Your committee finds that the State has relied on contracted private, for-profit, out-of-state correctional facilities to house a significant portion of the State's inmate population for more than two decades. Your committee also finds that housing inmates this far away from their families continues to cause adverse effects on their reentry and reintegration back into community.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 153 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1887 Public Safety on H.R. No. 159

The purpose of this measure is to ensure up-to-date information about hurricane refuges and shelters is available to the public electronically, on a government-run website, with the following minimum criteria: facility name, address, relevant site-specific instructions; category of hurricane the shelter or refuge area can sustain; capacity limit; pet-friendliness designation; and special needs accommodation designation.

Your Committee received testimony from the Department of Education providing comments, and testimony in support from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, the Hawaii Climate Change Health Working Group, and three individuals.

Your Committee recognizes Hawaii's rising risk of experiencing extreme weather events, the importance of electronically accessible information so that the public can seek refuge at a moment's notice, and the current lack of a comprehensive list of hurricane refuges and shelters throughout the entire state. Your committee also finds that though an electronically accessible listing of all emergency refuges and shelters is critical, there needs to be a disclaimer explaining that not all locations will necessarily be opened during a particular emergency because the designating of emergency refuges and shelters are determined and announced at the time an emergency is declared.

Your committee also concurs with the appropriateness of changing the outdated term "special needs" to "access and functional needs" as recommended by the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Your committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the counties include disclaimers to the electronically accessible list of refuges and shelters that makes it clear that not all locations will necessarily be opened because the designating of emergency refuges and shelters will be determined and announced at the time an emergency is declared; and
- (2) Replacing all "special needs" language with "access and functional needs".

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 159, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 159, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1888 Public Safety on H.C.R. No. 164

The purpose of this measure is to ensure up-to-date information about hurricane refuges and shelters is available to the public electronically, on a government-run website, with the following minimum criteria: facility name, address, relevant site-specific instructions; category of hurricane the shelter or refuge area can sustain; capacity limit; pet-friendliness designation; and special needs accommodation designation.

Your Committee received testimony from the Department of Education providing comments, and testimony in support from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, the Hawaii Climate Change Health Working Group, and three individuals.

Your Committee recognizes Hawaii's rising risk of experiencing extreme weather events, the importance of electronically accessible information so that the public can seek refuge at a moment's notice, and the current lack of a comprehensive list of hurricane refuges and shelters throughout the entire state. Your committee also finds that though an electronically accessible listing of all emergency refuges and shelters is critical, there needs to be a disclaimer explaining that not all locations will necessarily be opened during a particular emergency because the designating of emergency refuges and shelters are determined and announced at the time an emergency is declared.

Your committee also concurs with the appropriateness of changing the outdated term "special needs" to "access and functional needs" as recommended by the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Your committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the counties include disclaimers to their electronically accessible list of refuges and shelters that makes it clear that not all locations will necessarily be opened because the designating of emergency refuges and shelters will be determined and announced at the time such an emergency is declared; and
- (2) Replacing all "special needs" language with "access and functional needs".

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 164, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 164, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1889 Public Safety on H.R. No. 200

The purpose of this measure is to urge the United States Department of Defense to make recreational facilities on military installations in Hawaii accessible to all Hawaii residents.

Your committee received testimony from two individuals in support and one individual in opposition.

Your committee finds that the United States military maintains a significant presence in Hawaii including a wide range of high-quality recreational facilities, and that military installations in other states and jurisdictions have allowed varying degrees of public access to these recreational facilities. Your committee believes that expanding public access to these recreational facilities would foster stronger relationships between the military and local community, promoting goodwill.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 200 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Lamosao, Morikawa, Souza). Noes, 1 (Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1890 Public Safety on H.C.R. No. 208

The purpose of this measure is to urge the United States Department of Defense to make recreational facilities on military installations in Hawaii accessible to all Hawaii residents.

Your committee received testimony from two individuals in support and one individual in opposition.

Your committee finds that the United States military maintains a significant presence in Hawaii including a wide range of high-quality recreational facilities, and that military installations in other states and jurisdictions have allowed varying degrees of public access to these recreational facilities. Your committee believes that expanding public access to these recreational facilities would foster stronger relationships between the military and local community, promoting goodwill.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 208 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Lamosao, Morikawa, Souza). Noes, 1 (Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Woodson).

SCRep. 1891 Public Safety on H.C.R. No. 19

The purpose of this measure is to strengthen the public-military relationship in Hawaii by creating a taskforce comprised of the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, and the Commander of the United States Indo-Pacific Command.

In the first hearing of this measure, your Committee received testimony in support from the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, and three individuals; and received testimony in opposition from one individual. In the second and final hearing of this measure, your Committee received testimony in support from one individual.

Your Committee recognizes the public's call for greater transparency in the legislative process. Typically, when an individual Chair is personally opposed to a measure, they unilaterally defer it, without a vote. In this case, the Vice Chair (Acting Chair) was personally opposed to the measure, but wanted to ensure that committee members could record their support. Therefore, the Acting Chair recommended the measure be passed as is, despite voting against it as the individual Representative from Kakaako. Your Committee recognizes that the broad goals outlined in this measure fall short of identifying longstanding tensions and community concerns, and could be further refined to provide more guidance for the work of the task force.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee ultimately concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 19 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Souza). Noes, 1 (Iwamoto). Excused, 2 (Ichiyama, Poepoe).

SCRep. 1892 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.R. No. 143

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Land and Natural Resources to convene a working group to assess environmental and conservation initiatives needed to transition Volcano, Hawaii, into a biosphere area that promotes environmental sustainability and community well-being and complements the neighboring Hawaiian Islands Biosphere Reserve.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Alaula Kipuka Refuge; Hawai'i Forest Farms; the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Sierra Club of Hawai'i, Hawai'i Island Group; Volcano Community Association; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii Volcanoes National Park was part of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) designated Hawaiian Islands Biosphere Reserve, meaning the area met certain standards related to conservation, sustainable development, and scientific research. Your Committee further finds that the high environmental standards met by Hawaii Volcanoes National Park starkly contrast with the greater Volcano, Hawaii area, which has been subject to invasive plant species, Rapid Ohia Death, forest degradation, and other environmental issues. This measure encourages a coordinated effort to develop initiatives needed to promote the environmental well-being of Volcano, Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Hawaiian Islands Biosphere Reserve was, but is not currently, designated as a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) biosphere reserve;
- (2) Changing the membership of the working group; and
- (3) Amending the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 143, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 143, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 1893 Energy & Environmental Protection on H.C.R. No. 149

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Land and Natural Resources to convene a working group to assess environmental and conservation initiatives needed to transition Volcano, Hawaii, into a biosphere area that promotes environmental sustainability and community well-being and complements the neighboring Hawaiian Islands Biosphere Reserve.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Alaula Kipuka Refuge; Hawai'i Forest Farms; the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Sierra Club of Hawai'i, Hawai'i Island Group; Volcano Community Association; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii Volcanoes National Park was part of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) designated Hawaiian Islands Biosphere Reserve, meaning the area met certain standards related to conservation, sustainable development, and scientific research. Your Committee further finds that the high environmental standards met by Hawaii Volcanoes National Park starkly contrast with the greater Volcano, Hawaii area, which has been subject to invasive plant species, Rapid Ohia Death, forest degradation, and other environmental issues. This measure encourages a coordinated effort to develop initiatives needed to promote the environmental well-being of Volcano, Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Hawaiian Islands Biosphere Reserve was, but is not currently, designated as a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) biosphere reserve;
- (2) Changing the membership of the working group; and
- (3) Amending the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 149, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 149, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 1894 Tourism on H.C.R. No. 192

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to establish a Native Hawaiian Economic Development Working Group (Working Group).

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Nation of Hawaii; Ironworkers Stabilization Fund; and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding one representative each from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement, and Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce as members of the Working Group; and
- (2) Instead of requesting the Working Group to consider gaming as one pathway to spur economic opportunity for Native Hawaiians, requesting the Working Group to study the definition of gaming and look at all options to spur economic opportunity.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Tourism that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 192, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 192, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6; Ayes with Reservations (Matsumoto). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Ilagan).

SCRep. 1895 Finance on S.B. No. 693

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the continued implementation of the Food Hub Pilot Program, including the awarding of grants to qualifying food hubs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Research and Development, County of Hawai'i; Mālama Kaua'i; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawaii Primary Care Association; Ohana Unity Party; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Hawai'i Farmers Union; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Food Hub Hui; Hawai'i 'Ulu Cooperative; and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 693, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1896 Finance on S.B. No. 1249

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an Agricultural Crime Prevention Program within the Department of Agriculture to provide grants, education, administrative enforcement, and other services to benefit the State's agricultural industry;
- (2) Clarify, create, and strengthen laws regarding crimes and violations related to agriculture or agricultural lands and hunting on private agricultural lands;
- (3) Establish clear distinctions between administrative and criminal penalties; and
- (4) Appropriate funds to the Department of Agriculture to carry out this measure and hire necessary staff.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; Kapapala Ranch; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Ponoholo Ranch; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Ohana Unity Party; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Agriculture; and Department of the Attorney General.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1249, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1897 Finance on S.B. No. 1304

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Agriculture for the continued monitoring of pesticide drift in schools statewide.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture; University of Hawai'i System; and Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1304, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1898 Finance on S.B. No. 1547

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist Aloun Kauai Farming LLC, in the planning, design, construction, and maintenance of an integrated dairy.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Aloun Farm, Inc.; and Ohana Unity Party. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Libertarian Party of Hawaii and seven individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1547, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1899 Finance on S.B. No. 441

The purpose of this measure is to designate the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra as the "State of Hawaii Symphony Orchestra"; exempt state funds received by the Orchestra from the requirements of chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and appropriate funds for general operating costs of the Orchestra and for deposit into the State of Hawaii Endowment Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Pride at Work – Hawai'i; ABC Stores; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra; Schluter, Kwiat & Kennedy LLLP; Servco Pacific, Inc.; IATSE Local 665; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Youth Symphony; Mappy, Inc.; Artusi; Ballet Hawaii; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 441, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Hussey, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1900 Finance on S.B. No. 125

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Make the following business activities eligible for State Enterprise Zone Program incentives: retail sales of tangible personal property manufactured and sold in the enterprise zone to the final consumer, the processing of value-added agricultural products grown within an enterprise zone, the provision of professional services by health care professionals in health-care-related sectors, the use of advanced manufacturing to produce products, and the development of cybersecurity technology;
- (2) Extend the eligibility period of the State Business Tax Credit and General Excise Tax exemption for qualified businesses; and
- (3) Extend the eligibility period of the General Excise Tax exemption for qualified businesses engaged in the manufacturing of tangible personal property or the producing or processing of agricultural products.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Military Affairs Council; Young Democrats of Hawai'i; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Holomua Collaborative; Mana Up; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Tori Richard, Ltd; Title Guaranty of Hawai'i; HPM Building Supply; Hawai'i Forest Industry Association; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Taxation; Agribusiness Development Corporation; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 125, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1901 Finance on S.B. No. 742

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a Data Sharing and Governance Working Group within the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Governor; Office of Wellness and Resilience; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Department of Human Services; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Executive Office on Early Learning; Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women; Workforce Development Council; HawaiiKidsCAN; Hawai'i Workforce Funders Collaborative; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System and Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 742, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1902 Finance on S.B. No. 440

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for the Future Career and Technical Education Teacher Scholarship Program to facilitate the recruitment and retention of career and technical education teachers in public schools.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Chamber of Commerce Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 440, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Hussey, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1903 Finance on S.B. No. 119

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the establishment of a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program at the University of Hawaii Maui College and for related costs, including costs for meeting the increased demand for prerequisite courses, additional personnel, supplies, equipment, simulation and laboratory upgrades, and instructional costs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; State Health Planning and Development Agency; Hawai'i Nurses' Association - OPEIU Local 50, AFL-CIO; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawaii Primary Care Association; Hawai'i - American Nurses Association; AlohaCare; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 119, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Hussey, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1904 Finance on S.B. No. 1146

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the University of Hawaii to develop an action plan and pre-engineering concept plan to help with debris management and water quality control in the Ala Wai watershed, establish graduate assistant positions to assist with the action plan and pre-engineering concept plan, and provide partial summer overload support for faculty mentors.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Waikiki Neighborhood Board; Waikiki Beach Special Improvement District Association; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1146, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Hussey, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1905 Finance on S.B. No. 298

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to increase funding for Medicaid in-home services.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging; Disability and Communication Access Board; AARP Hawai'i; and AlohaCare. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services and State Health Planning and Development Agency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 298, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1906 Finance on S.B. No. 26

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Affordable Housing Land Inventory Task Force to conduct a study, subject to legislative appropriation, to assess the viability of housing development in transit-oriented development zones or other areas on state or county lands;
- (2) Require the Task Force to submit a report to the Legislature; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for a staff position and contractual services incurred by the Task Force.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Hawai'i Community Development Authority; Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Office of the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i; and County of Hawai'i Office of Housing and Community Development. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii and Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 26, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1907 Finance on S.B. No. 65

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority for the rehabilitation, remodeling, renovation, and repair of public housing units.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Makakilo/Kapolei/Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board No. 34; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Kunia Village Title Holding Corporation; and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 65, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1908 Finance on S.B. No. 414

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Transportation to institute proceedings to condemn portions of certain lands in Lahaina to build a new access road from Keawe Street to the Kilohana and Kalaiala sites developed in the Villages of Leialii; and
- (2) Appropriate funds out of the Major Disaster Fund for appraisals and other preparations necessary to institute the condemnation proceedings.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and Maui Chamber of Commerce. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 414, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1909 Finance on S.B. No. 572

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Add loan funds administered by nonprofit community development financial institutions for certain for-sale affordable housing projects to the list of loan priorities for the Affordable Homeownership Revolving Fund; and
- (2) Expand the use of Affordable Homeownership Revolving Fund monies to allow financing as matching funds for nonprofit community development financial institutions to mobilize other funding sources.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 572, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1910 Finance on S.B. No. 826

The purpose of this measure is to specify that the School Facilities Authority is not eligible as a housing developer for the purposes of the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 826, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1911 Finance on S.B. No. 944

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify that a partner or member that is a partnership or limited liability company that has been allocated a Low-Income Housing Tax Credit may either further allocate the credit or transfer, sell, or assign all or a portion of the credit to any taxpayer; and
- (2) Extend the sunset date of Act 129, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016, relating to the Low—Income Housing Tax Credit, until December 31, 2032.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Sugar Creek Capital; NAIOP Hawaii; Āhē Group LLC; American Council of Life Insurers; Stanford Carr Development, LLC; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 944, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1912 Finance on S.B. No. 1002

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources, through the State Historic Preservation Division, to contract its review of proposed state projects and projects affecting historic properties to third-party consultants if the proposed project involves a development intended to be affordable housing, under certain conditions;
- (2) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to publish proposed rules regarding the contracting of third—party consultants on its website and later present proposed final rules to the Board of Land and Natural Resources; and
- (3) Appropriate funds to the State Historic Preservation Division for the recruitment and retention of qualified third—party consultants.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Young Democrats of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and Housing Hawai'i's Future. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the O'ahu Historic Preservation Commission of the City and County of Honolulu and Ko'olau Foundation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; NAIOP Hawaii; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1002, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1913 Finance on S.B. No. 1229

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Extend the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund Equity Pilot Program to June 30, 2030; and
- (2) Require the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to give a preference to for-sale housing development projects that are developed under governmental assistance programs approved by the Corporation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one member of the Maui County Council; Department of Human Resources of the City and County of Honolulu; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Holomua Collaborative; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1229, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1914 Finance on S.B. No. 224

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to:

- (1) In collaboration with various agencies and upon request of the inmates, assist inmates in obtaining their civil identification card, birth certificate, social security card, and other relevant identification necessary for successful reentry into society, as soon as practicable, but no later than one year before the inmate's parole or release date; and
- (2) Initiate the process of obtaining identification documents for inmates released to work furlough, extended furlough, or community placement programs, by providing the forms necessary for the inmate to obtain civil identification cards and other identification documents to the inmate as soon as practicable, but no later than ninety days before the inmate's release date.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; Office of the Public Offender; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Community Alliance on Prisons; Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i; Ohana Unity Party; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 224, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1915 Finance on S.B. No. 223

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require and appropriate funds for the Department of Land and Natural Resources to establish an independent program relating to the prevention, control, and extinguishment of wildland fires within forest reserves;
- (2) Authorize the Administrator of Forestry and Wildlife to establish and maintain facilities for the performance of fire protection, fire prevention, pest control, and forest and range protection and enhancement activities;
- (3) Allow the State Fire Council to amend the State Fire Code to require certain owners and occupants of properties and holders of easements located in hazardous fire areas to maintain effective firebreaks and to practice other fire prevention activities; and
- (4) Require and appropriate funds for the Department of Land and Natural Resources to establish and implement a Community Fuels Reduction Project to reduce hazardous wildfire fuels on state lands, particularly those adjacent to communities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Hawai'i Forest Industry Association; Ohana Unity Party; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Honolulu Fire Department; Life of the Land; and Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 223, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1916 Finance on S.B. No. 183

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow impasses and disputes relating to the amounts of state and county contributions to the Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund to be resolved by arbitration; and
- (2) Repeal the prohibition against strikes by members of bargaining units on the issue of the amounts of state and county contributions to the Trust Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawaii Professional Assembly; United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 183, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1917 Finance on S.B. No. 583

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow the naming rights of the Stadium Facility and Convention Center Facility to be leased to any public or private entity; and
- (2) Require any revenues derived from advertising or marketing in or on the Stadium or Convention Center to be deposited into the applicable special fund of the facility.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Stadium Authority. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from The Outdoor Circle; Hawaii's Thousand Friends; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Budget and Finance; and Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 583, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13; Ayes with Reservations (Grandinetti, Alcos). Noes, 1 (Reyes Oda). Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1918 Finance on S.B. No. 1065

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the State, including its departments, agencies, or political subdivisions, from requiring a bachelor's degree as a qualification for a state or county position, unless the knowledge and skills required to perform job duties can only be obtained through the culmination of coursework in a bachelor's degree program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services; Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and Department of Human Resources Development.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1065, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1919 Finance on S.B. No. 1491

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Add the Department of Taxation and Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to the list of state agencies required to share data and determine the data to be shared through the Statewide Longitudinal Data System; and
- (2) Require data provided by the Department of Taxation and Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to be aggregated or anonymized.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Taxation; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; University of Hawai'i System; and Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for Education. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1491, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1920 Finance on S.B. No. 1567

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Human Resources Development to conduct a comprehensive review of the classification and compensation systems for state executive agencies;
- (2) Allow the Department of Human Resources Development to contract a third-party to assist with the completion of the review; and
- (3) Appropriate funds to support the completion of the review.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development and Holomua Collaborative.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1567, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1921 Finance on S.B. No. 465

The purpose of this measure is to require and appropriate funds for the Department of Land and Natural Resources to conduct a study of the carrying capacity of Kikiaola Small Boat Harbor and its surrounding area in the County of Kauai.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one member of the Kaua'i County Council. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 465, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1922 Finance on S.B. No. 739

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow the Governor, subject to approval by the Board of Land and Natural Resources, to negotiate the acquisition of private lands that are suitable for long-term diversified agricultural production in exchange for state lands to be acquired by private parties for development of affordable, workforce, or other housing development; and
- (2) Require the Governor to report to the Legislature the feasibility of certain land exchanges and certain related information and any appropriations, proposed legislation, or administrative action necessary to accomplish the goals of this measure.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Agribusiness Development Corporation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 739, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1923 Finance on S.B. No. 657

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology at the University of Hawaii at Manoa to establish and operate a center for climate resilient development.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency of the City and County of Honolulu; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Coalition Earth; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; and Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 657, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Hussey, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1924 Finance on S.B. No. 1202

The purpose of this measure is to allow campaign funds to be used for a candidate's child care costs or vital household dependent care costs under certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Campaign Spending Commission; Honolulu County Committee on the Status of Women; Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition; Hawai'i State Democratic Party Women's Caucus; AAUW of Hawai'i; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Ohana Unity Party.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1202 and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, 1 (Alcos). Excused, 2 (Holt, Ward).

SCRep. 1925 Finance on S.B. No. 21

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Public Utilities Commission to establish, no later than July 1, 2026, a Water Carrier Inflationary Cost Index automatic adjustment mechanism and waive or exempt any water carrier from any requirement under the Hawaii Water Carrier Act.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Hawaii Crop Improvement Association; Hawai'i Harbors Users Group; Young Brothers, LLC; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Hone Heke Corporation; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Public Utilities Commission. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of Agriculture; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; and Hawai'i Farm Bureau.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 21, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Hussey, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1926 Finance on S.B. No. 934

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Budget and Finance to increase the Mass Transit Special Fund expenditure ceiling.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation Board of Directors.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 934, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13; Ayes with Reservations (Reyes Oda). Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Hussey, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1927 Finance on S.B. No. 1120

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Transportation to conduct a feasibility study on implementing a clean fuel standard for alternative fuels in the State; and
- (2) Require the Department of Transportation to adopt rules governing a clean fuel standard for alternative fuels in the State by January 1, 2028.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Clean Energy; Neste; NXTClean Fuels, Inc.; Low Carbon Fuels Coalition; EcoEngineers; Biotechnology Innovation Organization; Oberon Fuels; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Transportation; Twelve Benefit Corporation; Infinium Operations, LLC; Island Energy Services, LLC; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Amazon; Par Hawaii; Blue Planet Foundation; Alaska Airlines; Hawaiian Airlines; and Coalition Earth.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1120, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Hussey, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1928 Finance on S.B. No. 1526

The purpose of this measure is to extend the lapse date for appropriations for the establishment and maintenance of a drug and alcohol toxicology testing laboratory.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Law Enforcement; Department of Transportation; County of Hawai'i, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney; County of Maui; Hawai'i Police Department; Honolulu Police Department; and Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1526, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Hussey, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1929 Finance on S.B. No. 447

The purpose of this measure is to establish a three-year Hiring Pilot Program within the Department of Health to streamline its hiring process by delegating certain human resources services from the Department of Human Resources Development to the Department of Health.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Health Planning and Development Agency; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 447, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1930 Finance on S.B. No. 1365

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to conduct criminal history record checks for applicants for physician licensure or license renewal through the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Health Planning and Development Agency; Hawaii Medical Board; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawaii Medical Service Association; The Queen's Health Systems; Kaiser Permanente Hawaii; and Hawaii Medical Association.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1365, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1931 Finance on S.B. No. 1422

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the amount of fees collected for copies of certain records issued by the Department of Health that are deposited in the Vital Statistics Improvement Special Fund; and
- (2) Repeal the Birth Defects Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1422, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14; Ayes with Reservations (Alcos). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1932 Finance on S.B. No. 1434

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Universal Immunization Funding Program for all individuals in the State; and
- (2) Establish and appropriate funds into and out of the Universal Immunization Purchase Special Fund for the purchase of immunizations and administration of the Universal Immunization Funding Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; State Health Planning and Development Agency; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Hawai'i – American Nurses Association; American Academy of Pediatrics, Hawai'i Chapter; Hawaii Medical Association; AlohaCare; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Libertarian Party of Hawaii; Hawaiian Islands Republican Women; Aloha Freedom Coalition; Hawai'i Christian Coalition; Hawaii Patriot Republicans; Free Citizens of Maunaloa; Hawaii General Jural Assembly; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1434, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12. Noes, 2 (Alcos, Reyes Oda). Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1933 Finance on S.B. No. 1443

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish maximum payment rates for medical care for patients of the Hawaii State Hospital or in the custody of the Director of Health at another psychiatric facility;
- (2) Authorize the Department of Health to establish payment rates for long-term care services for certain types of patients; and
- (3) Exempt the Department of Health's procurement of medical care for certain types of patients from laws regarding contracts to provide health and human services to residents.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health and State Council on Mental Health.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1443, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1934 Finance on S.B. No. 897

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow electric cooperatives to recover wildfire mitigation, repair, and restoration costs through an automatic rate adjustment clause or other tariff recovery mechanism;
- (2) Establish an aggregate limit for liability of an electric utility for economic damages arising from a covered catastrophic wildfire;
- (3) Authorize securitization of certain costs for electric utilities, including permitting an electric utility to apply to the Public Utilities Commission for one or more financing orders to issue bonds to recover infrastructure resilience costs; and
- (4) Establish a working group within the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to examine the establishment and implementation of a wildfire recovery fund and report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, District Council 50; Life of the Land; Plus Power; Par Hawaii; Ulupono Initiative; Sustainable Energy Hawai'i; Ka'ala Farm; Mālama Learning Center; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; AES Hawai'i; Hawaii Teamsters & Allied Workers Local 996; Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce; Hawai'i Island Economic Development Board; International Union of Elevator Constructors; Plumbers and Fitters Local 675; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1260; Hawaii Building & Construction Trades Council; Clearway Energy Group; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1186; International Association of Heat & Frost Insulators & Allied Workers Local 132; Iron Workers Stabilization Fund; United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers and Allied Workers, Local 221; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce; Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Hawaii; Laborer's International Union Local 368; Hawai'i Construction Alliance; International Union of Operating Engineers Local 3; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Association for Justice; State Farm Insurance; National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies; and Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of the Governor; Department of the Attorney General; Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Public Utilities Commission; Hawaiian Electric; Charter Communications; and Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 897, S.D. 3, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14; Ayes with Reservations (Alcos, Reyes Oda). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Ward).

SCRep. 1935 Finance on S.B. No. 1500

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Public Utilities Commission to appoint a receiver to take temporary action, should the Commission find it necessary, to assure continued adequate electric services from a failing investor-owned electric utility; and

- (2) Require a receiver to recognize and maintain any existing collective bargaining agreement at the time of and throughout receivership and prohibit the receiver from inducing or causing a reduction in force, or terminating a covered employee, other than for cause consistent with the collective bargaining agreement.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1260. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Public Utilities Commission and Hawaiian Electric.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1500, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Ward).

SCRep. 1936 Finance on S.B. No. 1501

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Budget and Finance to enter into step-in agreements with independent power producers for payment obligations arising under certain power purchase agreements;
- (2) Require the Department of Budget and Finance to establish the Power Purchase Costs Trust Fund;
- (3) Establish that monies collected from on-bill charges for power purchase agreements and money received from a surcharge supporting a reserve account that are deposited in the Power Purchase Costs Trust Fund shall be held in trust by the State, and that independent power producers shall hold a beneficial interest in the monies to the extent of the amounts owed under the covered power purchase agreements; and
- (4) Appoint, authorize, and empower an electric utility to serve as the billing, collection, and payment agent of the Department of Budget and Finance in the service of performing step-in agreements.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Longroad Energy; Plus Power; Ameresco; AES Hawai'i; the Climate Hawai'i Initiative of the Hawai'i Executive Collaborative; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of Budget and Finance; Department of the Attorney General; Public Utilities Commission; Ulupono Initiative; General Contractors Association of Hawaii; Hawaiian Electric; Blue Planet Foundation; and Clearway Energy Group LLC.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1501, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Ward).

SCRep. 1937 Finance on S.B. No. 825

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) For a one-year pilot period beginning on February 5, 2026:
 - (A) Extend the required period for notice of termination for failure to pay rent from five business days to ten calendar days;
 - (B) Require landlords, or their agents, and tenants to engage in mediation and require landlords or their agents to delay filing an action for summary possession if a tenant schedules mediation;
 - (C) Require landlords, or their agents, and tenants to be responsible for their own attorneys' fees and costs in prelitigation mediation, unless the tenant defaults on a mediated agreement or fails to attend a scheduled mediation; and
 - (D) Require landlords or their agents to provide specific information in the ten-calendar-day notice to tenants;
- (2) Require the Judiciary to report to the Legislature no later than ninety days after the termination of the pilot program; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for the Judiciary to contract for mediation services.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Department of Human Services; Ku'ikahi Mediation Center; The Mediation Center of the Pacific, Inc.; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 825, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 12; Ayes with Reservations (Reyes Oda). Noes, 2 (Lee, Alcos). Excused, 2 (Holt, Ward).

SCRep. 1938 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1508

The purpose of this measure is to amend or repeal various provisions of the Hawaii Revised Statutes or the Session Laws of Hawaii for the purposes of correcting errors and references, clarifying language, or deleting obsolete or unnecessary provisions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Legislative Reference Bureau.

Your Committee finds that this statutory revision measure is submitted by the Legislative Reference Bureau pursuant to Chapter 23G, Hawaii Revised Statutes. All of the statutory amendments proposed by this measure are intended to be technical in nature to correct errors or omissions or to repeal obsolete laws.

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 S.B. No. 1508, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 1939 Finance on S.B. No. 1466

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify that nonresidents who claim the refundable earned income tax credit are required to adjust the amount claimed using the ratio of their Hawaii adjusted gross income to federal adjusted gross income; and
- (2) Eliminate the unlimited carryforward on nonrefundable earned income tax credits for tax year 2022.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Taxation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that Act 114, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022 (Act 114), established a refundable earned income tax credit beginning with tax year 2023 and imposes a deadline for carryforwards of the nonrefundable earned income tax credit. Specifically, Act 114 provides that claims for the nonrefundable earned income tax credit for tax years 2018 through 2021 cannot be carried forward after tax year 2024. However, the carryforward for tax year 2022 appears to have been inadvertently omitted. Accordingly, under existing law, a taxpayer who claimed the nonrefundable earned income tax credit for tax year 2022 may carry forward any unused credit indefinitely until exhausted. This measure seeks to close this potential loophole by imposing a deadline on unclaimed nonrefundable earned income tax credits for tax year 2022.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1466 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Hussey, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1940 Finance on S.B. No. 1470

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal the existing cap on the tax rate that may be considered in determining income tax withholding and the requirement that a standard deduction allowance be treated as if it were denominated as a withholding exemption; and

- (2) Allow the Director of Taxation to prescribe a standard deduction allowance in an amount more or less than one whole exemption.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Taxation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the existing cap on the tax rate that may be considered in determining income tax withholding does not allow taxpayers in tax brackets with rates higher than eight percent to withhold enough for their expected income tax liabilities. Your Committee also finds that with the anticipated changes to the standard deduction and income tax brackets pursuant to Act 46, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, the existing requirement that a standard deduction allowance be treated as if it were denominated as a withholding exemption complicates the Department of Taxation's issuance of employees' withholding tables in the Employer's Tax Guide. This measure addresses both issues, allowing certain taxpayers to more accurately estimate their withholding to reflect expected income tax liabilities and de-linking the standard deduction allowance from the value of the withholding exemption to help employers better estimate their employees' withholding liabilities. This measure additionally allows for more precise estimates of employees' income tax liabilities by allowing a standard deduction allowance in fractional exemption amounts.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1470 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Hussey, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1941 Finance on S.B. No. 325

The purpose of this measure is to provide a tax credit to taxpayers and make deposits to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund and Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust Fund pursuant to article VII, section 6, of the Hawaii State Constitution.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that when the balance of the general fund at the close of each of two successive fiscal years exceeds five percent of the general fund revenues for each of those two fiscal years, article VII, section 6, of the Hawaii State Constitution requires the Legislature to dispose of excess general fund revenues through a tax credit or refund to taxpayers; a deposit into one or more funds as supplemental sources of funding in times of an emergency, economic downturn, or unforeseen reduction in revenue; or an appropriation of general funds for the pre-payment of debt service for general obligation bonds or pension or other post-employment benefit liabilities accrued for state employees. This measure is a vehicle for taking those constitutionally mandated actions.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 325, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 325, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Hussey, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1942 Finance on S.B. No. 326

The purpose of this measure is to provide specific ways the Legislature may demonstrate the capacity of a revolving fund to be financially self-sustaining when it determines whether the fund should be established or continued.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that existing law requires the Legislature, in establishing or reviewing a revolving fund to determine whether it should be continued, to ensure that the revolving fund serves a need; reflects a clear connection between benefits or programs funded and sources of revenue; provides an appropriate means of financing; and demonstrates the capacity to be financially self-sustaining. By adding specificity to the ways the Legislature may demonstrate the capacity of a revolving fund to be financially self-sustaining, this measure encourages fiscal prudence and responsibility.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 326, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 326, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Hussey, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1943 Finance on S.B. No. 382

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit a procurement officer from disclosing any competing offeror's proposal or evaluation score, except the summary of scores, during a debriefing requested by a non-selected offeror; and
- (2) Authorize the disclosure of a competing offeror's proposal or evaluation score after any protest is resolved and the contract is executed.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and State Procurement Office. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Budget and Fiscal Services of the City and County of Honolulu. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the General Contractors Association of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that the purpose of a debriefing is to explain a purchasing agency's overall ranking of all proposals and provide a summary of the rationale for any awards. Public disclosure of competing proposals that contain confidential information prior to final contract execution could foreseeably give an unfair competitive advantage to other offerors. Your Committee further finds that this measure provides clear guidance to purchasing agencies regarding what cannot be disclosed at a debriefing, in order to maintain integrity, confidentiality, and fairness during the procurement process.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 382, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 382, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1944 Finance on S.B. No. 383

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the minimum amount for purchases constituting small purchase procurements not subject to an electronic system from \$25,000 to \$50,000; and
- (2) Require the State Procurement Office to submit a report to the Legislature on the efficacy of the increased minimum small purchase procurement amounts.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and Office of the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the State Procurement Office.

Your Committee finds that escalating costs of goods over the years, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic, have created numerous difficulties regarding small purchase procurement. Your Committee believes that increasing the minimum threshold for small purchases provides better flexibility for procurement management and ensures that goods and services can be obtained quickly and efficiently.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 383, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 383, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Hussey, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1945 Finance on S.B. No. 933

The purpose of this measure is to provide one-time nonrecurring grants to organizations that provide critical services in the public interest and for the public's health, safety, and general welfare, in accordance with chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Energy Office; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management; Responsive Caregivers of Hawaii; Aloha United Way; Full Life; Haleakalā Conservancy; Neighborhood Place of Puna; Volunteer Legal Services Hawai'i; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Child & Family Service; Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i; Hawai'i True Cost Coalition; The Legal Clinic; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Friends of Amy B. H. Greenwell Ethnobotanical Garden; Easterseals Hawaii; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Hawai'i Meals on Wheels; Parents and Children Together; and eight individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary; Spirit Horse Ranch, Inc.; Hawai'i State Rural Health Association; What Makes You Feel Beautiful; Hawai'i Foodbank; Hawaii County Economic Opportunity Council; African American Diversity Cultural Center Hawaii; Goodwill Hawaii; Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Donkey Mill Art Center; Hawai'i Council for the Humanities; Hawai'i Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations, including a sign-on letter from numerous community-based organizations; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawaiian Humane Society; The Institute for Human Services, Inc.; Kumukahi Health + Wellness; Ka'ala Farm Inc.; and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that the federal funding freeze imposed by the United States Office of Management and Budget may have detrimental effects on Hawaii's nonprofit sector, which provides critical services in health and human services. Without assistance from the federal government, Hawaii's federally qualified health centers as well as programs that provide child care, social services, subsidized housing, and homeless services will see a significant drop in funding. Therefore, your Committee finds that the funds appropriated through this measure are necessary to ensure that crucial public services are maintained for the benefit of the State's residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 933, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 933, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Hussey, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1946 Finance on S.B. No. 1464

The purpose of this measure is to conform Hawaii income and estate and generation-skipping transfer tax laws to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended as of December 31, 2024.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Taxation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that this conformity measure ensures the state income tax and state estate and generation-skipping transfer tax laws conform to the federal Internal Revenue Code as it exists on December 31 of the preceding calendar year. This measure updates state tax laws with changes made to the federal Internal Revenue Code during the past year that are appropriate for Hawaii law.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1464, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1464, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Hussey, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1947 Finance on S.B. No. 1465

The purpose of this measure is to require, for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024, any qualified member claiming a credit for pass-through entity taxation to add to the member's taxable income the member's share of taxes paid by an electing pass-through entity.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Taxation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that taxpayers claiming the pass-through entity tax credit receive a double benefit in the form of the credit and a reduction of taxable income because the entity is permitted to deduct the pass-through entity taxes paid on the member's behalf. This measure requires any qualified member claiming a pass-through entity credit to add the taxes back to the qualified member's taxable income to eliminate the double benefit.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1465, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1465, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Hussey, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1948 Finance on S.B. No. 1300

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, expand free school meal coverage to students who currently qualify for reduced-price lunch;
- (2) Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, expand free school meal coverage to students whose family income is no more than three hundred percent of the federal poverty level; and
- (3) Appropriate funds to the Department of Education to subsidize meal costs pursuant to this measure.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one member of the Kaua'i County Council; City and County of Honolulu Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency; City and County of Honolulu Office of Economic Revitalization; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Indivisible Hawai'i; AAUW of Hawai'i; Ka Ohana O Na Pua; Kaua'i Climate Action Coalition; Hawai'i Youth Services Network; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Hui Aloha Aina o Honolulu; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; International Longshore & Warehouse Union International; International Longshore & Warehouse Union Local 142; UNITE HERE! Local 5; Aloha United Way; ALICE Initiative; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Hawai'i Foodbank; Maui Food Bank; American Heart Association; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; North Shore Nutrition; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of the Governor; Department of Education; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; AlohaCare; Green Party of Hawai'i; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; Hawai'i 'Ulu Cooperative; Kaua'i Democratic Party; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Hawai'i Hunger Action Network; Hawai'i Pacific Advisory Group; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Save Medicaid Hawaii; and numerous individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1300, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1949 Finance on S.B. No. 1009

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a state reserved parking space enforcement fine for the unauthorized use of parking spaces reserved for persons with disabilities or electric vehicles;
- (2) Specify that a fine shall not be imposed on a person who parks in a parking space reserved for electric vehicles if the electric vehicle charging system is inoperable or broken; and
- (3) Require monies collected from state reserved parking space enforcement fines to be deposited into the Safe Routes to School Program Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Ulupono Initiative; Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; and Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Accounting and General Services; Disability and Communication Access Board; Hawaiian Electric; and Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice.

Your Committee notes the concerns regarding the amount of the additional state reserved parking space enforcement fine for violations of use of a parking space reserved for persons with disabilities and defers to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in determining an appropriate fine amount.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1009, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1950 Finance on S.B. No. 1638

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish within the Department of Transportation a three-year Molokai Air Carrier Subsidy Pilot Program to provide subsidies to air carriers operating out of Molokai Airport; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the administration of the Pilot Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one member of the Maui County Council; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Huli Au Ola Maui County Area Health Education Center; Molokai Homestead Farmers Alliance; Kamaka Air LLC; Moloka'i Drugs, Inc.; and four individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1638, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1951 Finance on S.B. No. 71

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify the prioritization of, and eligibility and preference criteria for, projects that may be funded by the Rental Housing Revolving Fund;
- (2) Establish the Mixed-Income Subaccount within the Rental Housing Revolving Fund to make loans for the development of workforce rental housing projects or units intended for persons and families with incomes at or below one hundred forty percent of the area median income; and
- (3) Appropriate funds into and out of the Mixed-Income Subaccount of the Rental Housing Revolving Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Holomua Collaborative; Title Guaranty of Hawai'i; HPM Building Supply; Hawai'i Gas; Mana Up; Tori Richard, Ltd.; Hawai'i YIMBY; and Maui Chamber of Commerce. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and NAIOP Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 71, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1952 Finance on S.B. No. 1536

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal the exemption for the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority from the State's Employees' Retirement System; and
- (2) Require a retirant returning to service as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority to reenroll into the Employees' Retirement System.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1536, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Ward).

SCRep. 1953 Finance on S.B. No. 439

The purpose of this measure is to require the Board of Land and Natural Resources to adopt rules to impose seasonal user fees that apply solely to nonresidents visiting state parks and trails.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Kohala Coast Resort Association; Care for 'Āina Now Coalition; Resources Legacy Fund; Coalition Earth; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; and Maui Chamber of Commerce.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 439, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1954 Finance on S.B. No. 1142

The purpose of this measure is to specify procedures regarding the disbursement of insurance proceeds by a mortgage servicer to a borrower for residential real estate that has been damaged or destroyed.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from United Policyholders; 'Ahahui o Hawai'i; and nine individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Mortgage Bankers Association of Hawaii and Hawaii Financial Services Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Lāhainā Strong; Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation; and Hawaii Credit Union League.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1142, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1955 Finance on S.B. No. 1367

The purpose of this measure is to make clarifying amendments to the installment loans law, including:

- (1) Using defined terms consistently;
- (2) Requiring lenders to prorate fees on a daily basis;
- (3) Allowing lenders to charge a \$1 convenience fee for debit card payments;
- (4) Requiring paper receipts only for cash or in-person payments and removing the requirement that receipts contain the consumer's name; and
- (5) Repealing the three-day cool down period between installment loans.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1367, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Ward).

SCRep. 1956 Finance on S.B. No. 989

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Appropriate funds to assist small businesses with technology enablement and the development of project management software to simplify the facilitated application process for small businesses; and
- (2) Require the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation to submit a report to the Legislature on the status of assisting technology enablement for small businesses related to the tourism sector.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Technology Development Corporation; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce; and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 989, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1957 Finance on S.B. No. 1578

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Officially designate the East-West Center as the Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange between East and West, Inc., and exempt state fund appropriations to the East-West Center from chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (2) Rename the Hawaii Sister-State Committee as the Hawaii Sister-State and International Partnerships Commission and amend its functions and membership;
- (3) Require the Office of International Affairs to provide support to the Hawaii Sister-State and International Partnerships Commission;
- (4) Expand the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism's authority to establish out-of-state offices to include out-of-state facilities to support sister-state or province relationships and other partnerships, generate revenue for the State, and buy property; and
- (5) Appropriate funds to the Office of International Affairs to develop an updated strategy for the State's international engagement and to the East-West Center to help develop and maintain the State's international relationships, programs, and partnerships.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; East-West Center; and East-West Center Employees Association, AFSCME Local 928, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1578, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1958 Finance on S.B. No. 299

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Healthcare Education Loan Repayment Program to continue to provide loan repayment assistance to qualified applicants, under certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; University of Hawai'i System; Hawai'i State Center for Nursing; State Council on Mental Health; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawai'i Pacific Health; AlohaCare; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hawaii Primary Care Association; Liberty Dialysis Hawai'i; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; The Queen's Health Systems; Hawaii Association of Health Plans; Hawaii Dental Service; Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i; Hawaii Medical Service Association; and Hawai'i-American Nurses Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of the Governor.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 299, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1959 Finance on S.B. No. 850

The purpose of this measure is to require, and appropriate funds for, the State Council on Developmental Disabilities to:

- (1) Study the social determinants of health that affect health disparities experienced by individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities in the State and can be addressed with policy, legislative, or stakeholder action; and
- (2) Report to the Legislature recommendations and proposals on how state agencies can reduce these health disparities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Wellness and Resilience; University of Hawai'i System; Executive Office on Aging; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Disability and Communication Access Board; and Full Life.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 850, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1960 Finance on S.B. No. 717

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal the statutory prohibition against certain civil service exempt employees from grieving a suspension or discharge; and
- (2) Allow any employee who is a member of an appropriate bargaining unit to grieve a suspension or discharge.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State AFL-CIO; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; and United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Resources of the City and County of Honolulu.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 717, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1961 Finance on S.B. No. 828

The purpose of this measure is to expand workers' compensation medical benefits coverage to include firefighters who develop certain cancers or diseases in the discharge of their firefighting duties.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Hawai'i State Fire Council; Disability and Communication Access Board; Honolulu Fire Department; Hawaii Fire Fighters Association, Local 1463, IAFF, AFL-CIO; and three individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 828, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1962 Finance on S.B. No. 855

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify the definition of "covered employer" under the Hawaii Retirement Savings Act;
- (2) Require each covered employer to automatically enroll its covered employees into the Hawaii Retirement Savings Program, unless a covered employee opts out;
- (3) Repeal the limit on the total fees and expenses that can be spent for the Program each year; and
- (4) Appropriate funds for the development and operation of the Hawaii Retirement Savings Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging; Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawai'i Community Lending; Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce; Alliance of Residential Care Administrators; and numerous

individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Retail Merchants of Hawaii and Maui Chamber of Commerce. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Retirement Savings Board; AARP Hawai'i; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 855, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1963 Finance on S.B. No. 177

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Division of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture to adopt, amend, and repeal rules to develop an assessment and approval process to import and move aquatic livestock in the State; and
- (2) Require and appropriate funds for the Division of Animal Industry to develop that process through a biological aquatic risk-based framework.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Aquaculture and Aquaponics Association.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 177, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1964 Finance on S.B. No. 894

The purpose of this measure is to fulfill the Department of Education's statutory mandate to provide farm to school meals that consist of at least thirty percent locally sourced products by appropriating funds to the Department of Education for statewide regional kitchen expansion.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Agribusiness Development Corporation; University of Hawai'i at Mānoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience; Hawai'i State Youth Commission; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Cattleman's Council, Inc.; Hawai'i Foodbank; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education and Hawai'i Farmers Union.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 894, S.D. 3, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1965 Finance on S.B. No. 121

The purpose of this measure is to propose an amendment to article VI, section 3, of the Hawaii State Constitution to allow the Senate sixty days during certain times of the year in which to consider and act on the appointments of justices and judges.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 121 and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14; Ayes with Reservations (Alcos, Reyes Oda). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Ward).

SCRep. 1966 Finance on S.B. No. 1252

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the University of Hawaii to establish positions for the University of Hawaii at Manoa John A. Burns School of Medicine's Department of Geriatric Medicine to provide coordination between the University of Hawaii's programs that provide training on Alzheimer's disease and dementia.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging and Hawai'i Primary Care Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa John A. Burns School of Medicine and Alzheimer's Association-Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1252, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1967 Finance on S.B. No. 1502

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the College of Social Sciences at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and the Business Administration Program at the University of Hawaii West Oahu to establish positions and fund operating expenses for workforce development programs that support the defense sector of the State's economy.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Military Affairs Council; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Malu 'Aina Center for Non-violent Education & Action; Kauai Women's Caucus; Academic Labor United; Greenpeace Hawaii; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa; University of Hawaii-West O'ahu; and University of Hawaii Professional Assembly.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1502, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1968 Finance on S.B. No. 1220

The purpose of this measure is to require:

- (1) Gas utility companies to submit proposed renewable gas tariffs to the Public Utilities Commission by August 31, 2025; and
- (2) The Public Utilities Commission to establish an initial or revised renewable gas tariff or tariffs no later than nine months after the filing of a completed application for a proposed renewable gas tariff if the Commission finds that the tariff meets certain conditions and standards.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Makakilo/Kapolei/Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board No. 34; Ulupono Initiative; Climate Future Forum; Hawai'i Gas; Hawaii Resource Strategy Group, LLC; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Hawai'i Restaurant Association; Coalition for Renewable Natural Gas; Hawaii Bioeconomy Trade Organization; and Chamber of Commerce Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Public Utilities Commission.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1220, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1969 Finance on S.B. No. 1269

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the continued exploration and identification of geothermal resources and commercial viability for utility-scale geothermal production in counties with a population of less than three hundred thousand, with certain limitations.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Life of the Land; Hawaiian Electric; Lepo 'Ula South Ka'ū Rural Enterprise & Innovation Hive; Coalition Earth; and seven individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party; Energy Justice Network; Students for Justice in Palestine at the University of Hawaii; Pele Defense Fund; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Waikā Consulting, LLC; Sustainable Energy Hawai'i; Ulupono Initiative; and two individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1269, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14; Ayes with Reservations (Reyes Oda). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1970 Finance on S.B. No. 1602

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to establish the Keauhou Aquifer System Monitoring Pilot Program to collect data, monitor groundwater levels, conduct tests, conduct community outreach, and develop a plan for responsible management of groundwater resources in the Keauhou Aquifer System;
- (2) Require the periodic reporting of certain information collected for the Pilot Project to the Legislature; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for the Pilot Project and installation of two monitoring wells in the Keauhou Aquifer System.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority; Department of Water Supply of the County of Hawaii; Kona Community Development Plan Action Committee; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce; Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1602, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1971 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 1279

The purpose of this measure is to authorize pharmacists under contract with covered entities under the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program to supervise the filling or receipt of a prescription via telehealth under certain circumstances.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; AARP Hawai'i; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; Hawaii Primary Care Association; Alzheimer's Association - Hawaii; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Hawai'i Psychological Association; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Board of Pharmacy; Pūlama Lāna'i; Moloka'i Drugs, Inc.; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that existing law requires a registered pharmacist to be physically present at the site where a prescription is filled or received for distribution to a consumer. Due to a combination of factors, including geographic isolation, the lack of health care professionals, and relatively small populations of rural communities, certain health care organizations are unable to have a registered pharmacist be constantly present at the site.

Your Committee further finds that, under the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program, certain health care organizations receive discounts on prescription drugs and are required to pass those savings off to consumers. However, for small organizations, it is not cost-effective to employ a registered pharmacist on a full-time basis, which endangers the timely provision of medications to the organization's patients. This measure will provide relief from the physical presence requirement to allow rural health care organizations to properly serve their patients.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1279, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto, Kong, Marten, Tam). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 1972 Finance on S.B. No. 1048

The purpose of this measure is to amend Act 205, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, by:

- (1) Clarifying definitions for platform charities and charitable fundraising platforms;
- (2) Creating separate registration, reporting, and fee requirements that are specific to platform charities and charitable fundraising platforms;
- (3) Updating provisions on prohibited acts, enforcement powers, and remedies; and
- (4) Extending its effective date to July 1, 2026.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; GoFundMe; and Hawai'i Community Foundation.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1048, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1048, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Ward).

SCRep. 1973 Finance on S.B. No. 1585

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education to establish and implement evidence-based performance metrics relating to the outcomes of its workforce and pathway development programs; and
- (2) Authorize the expenditure of Perkins V federal funds for the Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education Office to establish and implement evidence-based assessments of its workforce and pathway development programs.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education; Department of the Attorney General; Department of Human Resources Development; Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; University of Hawai'i Community Colleges; and Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for Education.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the provision that lapses unexpended Perkins V federal funds to the general fund at the end of the fiscal year; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1585, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1585, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Hussey, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 1974 Finance on S.B. No. 747

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an Audit Office within the Board of Education to audit the operations and expenditures of the Department of Education;
- (2) Establish positions within the Audit Office and exempt those positions from civil service; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for the establishment and operation of the Audit Office and establishment of positions.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Board of Education.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the number of positions to be established to an unspecified number; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 747, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 747, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1975 Finance on S.B. No. 1318

The purpose of this measure is to repeal duplicative and potentially confusing language regarding penalties for water pollution offenses and clarify that enforcement of criminal water pollution offenses remains under the jurisdiction of the Department of Health, rather than the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Land and Natural Resources; and one individual.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and

(2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1318, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1318, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Ward).

SCRep. 1976 Finance on S.B. No. 865

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to establish a permanent extension agent position within the University of Hawaii at Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience's Kona Cooperative Extension to support the coffee and orchard crops extension and applied research program and the Kona Research Station in the County of Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Mahilani Partners LLC, dba Hilo Coffee Co.; Hawaii Tropical Fruit Growers; Ka'ū Coffee Growers Cooperative; Greenwell Farms Inc.; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Rusty's Hawaiian; Hawaii Coffee Growers Association; Kealia Ranch LLC; Hawaii Coffee Association; Kauai Coffee Company LLC; Nutrien Ag Solutions; Honolulu Coffee Farms; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Waimea Coffee Farm LLC; Synergistic Hawai'i Agriculture Council; Kona Coffee Council; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture and University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the number of positions established to an unspecified number.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 865, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 865, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1977 Finance on S.B. No. 576

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend the required contents of legislative reports to be submitted by the Hawaii Public Housing Authority and Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; and
- (2) Amend the source of monies to be deposited into the Public Housing Special Fund and the allowable uses of monies expended from the Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 576, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 576, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1978 Finance on S.B. No. 662

The purpose of this measure is to authorize county police officers to enforce the Statewide Traffic Code on all public streets, roadways, and highways within the State.

Your Committee did not receive any written testimony on this measure.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 662, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 662, S.D. 1, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1979 Finance on S.B. No. 1669

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Transit-Oriented Community Improvement Partnership to plan, coordinate, and administer programs to develop community improvements and amenities that meet transit infrastructure needs, meet workforce housing needs, and promote affordable, healthy, equitable, and secure communities; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the establishment and operation of the Transit-Oriented Community Improvement Partnership and establishment of various positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Hawai'i Bicycling League; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; and Hawaii State Energy Office.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the number of positions to unspecified numbers.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1669, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1669, S.D. 2, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1980 Finance on S.B. No. 952

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require and appropriate funds for the Department of Human Services to design, implement, and administer a five-year Child Welfare System Diversion and Intervention Pilot Program to provide services for families and children involved, at risk of involvement, or at risk of reinvolvement with Child Welfare Services; and
- (2) Require the Department of Human Services to collaborate with the Office of Wellness and Resilience when designing the Pilot Program and submitting a joint report to the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Wellness and Resilience; Hawaii Youth Services Network; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Neighborhood Place of Puna; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i; National Center for Youth Law; Mālama 'Ohana Working Group; and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Human Services; and Hawaii Coalition for Child Protective Reform.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 952, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 952, S.D. 2, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1981 Finance on S.B. No. 960

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Human Services to improve access to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, including establishing additional positions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Executive Office on Aging; Department of Research & Development of the County of Hawai'i; Edmar Castillo Photography; Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Indivisible Hawai'i Working Families Team; AAUW of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Foodbank; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Hawai'i Hunger Action Network; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Kauai Women's Caucus; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Hawaii Food+ Policy; Hawai'i Farmers Union; AlohaCare; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services and Hawai'i Public Health Institute.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 960, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 960, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1982 Finance on S.B. No. 1419

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Update the name of the Neighbor Islands Blind and Visually Impaired Service Pilot Program by replacing the term "visually impaired" with the term "low vision"; and
- (2) Clarify the Pilot Program's implementation timeframes.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Disability and Communication Access Board; National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services and State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1419, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1419, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1983 Finance on S.B. No. 88

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the payment of allowances for TRICARE, TRICARE Dental Program, and vision coverage to all officers, warrant officers, and enlisted personnel of the Hawaii National Guard ordered to active duty for more than thirty days.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Defense; Hawai'i National Guard; Ohana Unity Party; and one individual.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 88, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 88, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1984 Finance on S.B. No. 353

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit the Governor or a mayor from suspending requests for records or vital records and statistics during a state of emergency;
- (2) Add a definition for "severe weather warning";
- (3) Clarify the authority of the Governor and mayors during a state of emergency or a local state of emergency; and
- (4) Allow the Legislature and county councils to terminate, by an affirmative two-thirds vote, a state of emergency or local state of emergency, in whole or in part, issued by the Governor or a mayor, respectively.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Public First Law Center; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Human Services and Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Information Practices.

Your Committee has amended this measure by specifying that the Legislature or county councils may terminate an applicable state of emergency after thirty days, in whole or in part, issued by the Governor or Mayor, respectively.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 353, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 353, S.D. 2, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1985 Finance on S.B. No. 1377

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Veterans Cemeteries Board within the Office of Veterans' Services of the Department of Defense to provide veterans cemeteries in the State with guidance, education, technical assistance, and other support to ensure compliance with standards set by the National Cemetery Administration of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Veterans' Services and one individual.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1377, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1377, S.D. 2, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1986 Finance on S.B. No. 222

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Extend the sunset date of the Illegal Fireworks Task Force from June 30, 2025, to June 30, 2030, and require the Task Force to submit additional reports to the Legislature; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to support the work of the Illegal Fireworks Task Force.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Honolulu Police Department; Ohana Unity Party; and three individuals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 222, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 222, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Ward).

SCRep. 1987 Finance on S.B. No. 264

The purpose of this measure is to establish the amount of compensation for private sector examiners who evaluate a criminal defendant's penal responsibility or fitness to proceed in a legal case and appropriate funds to the Judiciary for these payments.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Hawai'i Psychological Association; and Hawaii Disability Rights Center. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health and Office of the Public Defender.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 264, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 264, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1988 Finance on S.B. No. 304

The purpose of this measure is to establish positions and appropriate funds for the Adult Client Services Branch of the First Circuit Court to move toward the recommended national best practice standards for community supervision.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 304, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 304, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1989 Finance on S.B. No. 428

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the fees paid to witnesses in civil and criminal trials;
- (2) Change the fees paid for travel expenses from 20 cents a mile to the mileage allowance prescribed by the Administrator of General Services; and
- (3) Authorize reimbursement to witnesses in civil trials for actual expenses of travel by common carrier.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the fees paid to witnesses for their attendance in civil and criminal trials to unspecified amounts;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 428, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 428, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1990 Finance on S.B. No. 1316

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Judiciary to contract with a collection agency or licensed attorney to collect delinquent court-ordered fees, fines, sanctions, and court costs;
- (2) Repeal the authority of the Judiciary to contract with a collection agency or licensed attorney to collect delinquent restitution;
- (3) Expressly allow courts to specify a period of time or installments for payment of fees and restitution;
- (4) Require district courts to hold payment compliance hearings once per year or as soon as practicable, until all fees, fines, and restitution are fully paid, and require a defendant to appear and show cause if the defendant fails to pay in full within a time specified by the court or fails to pay three consecutive installments; and
- (5) Specify that when restitution is not ordered by a court, the fines or fees are to be referred to a collection agency and no proof of compliance hearing is required.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Crime Victim Compensation Commission and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary and Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1316, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1316, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1991 Finance on S.B. No. 1469

The purpose of this measure is to suspend the statute of limitations on certain collection activities during the period an assessment is pending on appeal before the Taxation Board of Review or Tax Appeal Court.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Taxation.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1469, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1469, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14; Ayes with Reservations (Alcos). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Ward).

SCRep. 1992 Finance on S.B. No. 1359

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Beginning January 1, 2026, increase the employer base composite monthly contribution to the Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund by 5.2 percent of the 2025 employer base composite monthly contribution; and

- (2) Beginning January 1, 2027, require that the employer base composite monthly contribution be calculated based on the change in Medicare Part B premiums from 2025 to 2026 and at a two-year lag thereafter.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund Board of Trustees and O'ahu District Hawaii State Teacher Association-Retired.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing its effective date to upon approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1359, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1359, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1993 Finance on S.B. No. 1360

The purpose of this measure is to amend the Employees' Retirement System's requirements for beginning dates and automatic disbursements to reflect the most recent requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, to return the accumulated contributions of former non-vested class A or B members.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Board of Trustees of the Employees' Retirement System.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing its effective date to upon approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1360, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1360, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1994 Finance on S.B. No. 1361

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Extend the deadline for payment to the Employees' Retirement System for departments or agencies of the State or counties that fail to comply with reporting requirements by one year after the review period; and
- (2) Change the timeframe for which the Employees' Retirement System must report regarding any department or agency's failure to submit required information to the Employees' Retirement System from the current fiscal year to the previous fiscal year.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Board of Trustees of the Employees' Retirement System.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to upon approval; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1361, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1361, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1995 Finance on S.B. No. 935

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Include sheriffs and deputy sheriffs in the enhanced retirement benefits category;
- (2) Reduce the minimum number of years of credited service that qualified Tier 2 Employees' Retirement System members must have to be eligible for vested benefit status for service retirement allowance purposes from ten years to five years; and
- (3) Increase employer contributions to offset the resulting liability.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Governor; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; and Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Department of Budget and Finance; Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund Board of Trustees; Board of Trustees of the Employees' Retirement System; and United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the retirement allowance for a member who first earned credited service as a judge after June 30, 2031, to 1.75 percent of their average final compensation for each year of credited service as a judge; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 935, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 935, S.D. 2, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14; Ayes with Reservations (Alcos). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1996 Finance on S.B. No. 1641

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Hawaii Film Authority to promote and develop the film industry and transfer the rights, powers, functions, and duties of the Hawaii Film Office to the Authority;

- (2) Establish the Hawaii Film Authority Board within the Hawaii Film Authority;
- (3) Create separate funding sources for the promotion and support of the film industry and creative industries by renaming the Hawaii Film and Creative Industries Development Special Fund as the Hawaii Creative Industries Development Special Fund and creating a new Film Industry and Development Special Fund; and
- (4) Appropriate funds for the establishment and operation of the Hawaii Film Authority.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Pride at Work – Hawai‘i; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; IATSE Local 665; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; Ohana Unity Party; and six individuals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the number of full-time equivalent positions established to unspecified numbers; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1641, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1641, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1997 Finance on S.B. No. 1589

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require all gifts or grants from a private source deposited into the Stadium Development Special Fund to be used only for infrastructure related to the Stadium and costs associated with the development of the Stadium;
- (2) Require any unexpended and unencumbered funds in the Stadium Development Special Fund to immediately lapse to the general fund if the project is terminated; and
- (3) Appropriate funds out of the Stadium Development Special Fund with certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Āliamanu-Salt Lake-Foster Village-Airport Neighborhood Board No. 18; Stanford Carr Development, LLC; and Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' International Association Local 630, AFL-CIO. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Stadium Authority.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the appropriation out of the Stadium Development Special Fund for fiscal year 2025-2026, to increase the expenditure ceiling of the Special Fund, to an unspecified amount.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1589, S.D. 3, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1589, S.D. 3, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 1998 Finance on S.B. No. 763

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Agricultural Enforcement Program within the Department of Law Enforcement, to be funded by a newly established Agricultural Enforcement Special Fund, and appropriate funds for the establishment of positions and other operating costs of the Agricultural Enforcement Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Agribusiness Development Corporation; County of Hawai‘i, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; Kapapala Ranch; Hawai‘i Farm Bureau; Ponohele Ranch; Hawai‘i Food+ Policy; Hilo County Farm Bureau; SC Ranch Company, Inc.; Ohana Unity Party; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Law Enforcement; and Hawai‘i Farmers Union.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the number of positions to be established within the Agricultural Enforcement Program to unspecified numbers; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 763, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 763, S.D. 2, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 1999 Finance on S.B. No. 328

The purpose of this measure is to establish a dairy farm retrofit income tax credit for capital infrastructure costs incurred in the conversion of a dairy farm to a hog farm.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Agribusiness Development Corporation; Hawai‘i Farm Bureau; Hawai‘i Food+ Policy; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Taxation and Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committee has amended this measure by blanking the maximum amount of dairy farm retrofit income tax credits that a taxpayer may claim.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 328, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 328, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 2000 Finance on S.B. No. 1186

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a Statewide Interagency Food Systems Coordination Team and an Interagency Food Systems Working Group within the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Agribusiness Development Corporation; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Department of Research and Development of the County of Hawai'i; City and County of Honolulu Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc.; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; O'ahu Resource Conservation & Development Council; Hawaii Food Industry Association; Hawai'i Food Bank; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the number of authorized positions to unspecified numbers.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1186, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1186, S.D. 2, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 2001 Finance on S.B. No. 1441

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal the requirement to transfer the Oahu Regional Health Care System from the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to the Department of Health;
- (2) Repeal certain changes to the Hawaii Revised Statutes that were made by Act 212, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, that relate to the transfer of the Oahu Regional Health Care System from the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to the Department of Health;
- (3) Require the Oahu Regional Health Care System and Department of Health to enter into a formal memorandum of agreement regarding the Oahu Regional Health Care System under certain terms; and
- (4) Require the Oahu Regional Health Care System to submit a report to the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Corporate Board of Directors and Oahu Regional Health Care System. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health and University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1441, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1441, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 2002 Finance on S.B. No. 479

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend the funding sources of the Hawaii ABLE Savings Program Trust Fund;
- (2) Repeal the Director of Finance's discretionary authority to use monies in the Hawaii ABLE Savings Program Trust Fund under certain circumstances;
- (3) Authorize the Director of Finance to expend monies in the Hawaii ABLE Savings Program Trust Fund to provide incentive payments to ABLE account owners; and
- (4) Appropriate funds for incentive payments and a full-time position to support the Hawaii ABLE Savings Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Easterseals Hawaii; Work Now Hawaii; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; Arc of Maui County; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the number of full-time equivalent positions created by this measure to an unspecified number;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 479, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 479, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 2003 Finance on S.B. No. 1281

The purpose of this measure is to extend the sunset date of Act 107, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, which allows for the reimbursement of services provided through telehealth via an interactive telecommunications system.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; University of Hawai'i System; State Council on Mental Health; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; AARP Hawaii; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawaii Association of Health Plans; Hawaii Medical Service Association; Hawai'i Mental Health Coalition; Alzheimer's Association-Hawaii; Hawaii Medical Association; American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services; State Health Planning and Development Agency; AlohaCare; and Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1281, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1281, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 2004 Finance on S.B. No. 1431

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish and appropriate funds for a Hepatitis Prevention Program within the Department of Health to address morbidity and mortality due to hepatitis B and C;
- (2) Require the Department of Health to develop and implement an educational program to inform the public on how to identify and prevent hepatitis and aid in its early diagnosis;
- (3) Require the Department of Health to develop a comprehensive statewide hepatitis prevention plan; and
- (4) Repeal outdated provisions related to hepatitis.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hep Free Hawaii; Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center; AlohaCare; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the number of positions to be established for the Hepatitis Prevention Program to unspecified numbers.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1431, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1431, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 2005 Finance on S.B. No. 1448

The purpose of this measure is to make an emergency appropriation to the Department of Health to fund construction defect remediation of the Hale Ho'ola Building at the Hawaii State Hospital, including the payment of legal fees and costs for special deputy attorneys general.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Council on Mental Health and Ko'olau Foundation. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services and Department of Health.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$10,660,000 in general revenues for fiscal year 2024-2025;
- (2) Inserting the appropriate amount and percentage of the appropriation in excess of the general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 and amending the amount by which the ceiling has already been exceeded; and
- (3) Changing the effective date to upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1448, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1448, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14; Ayes with Reservations (Alcos). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 2006 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 890

The purpose of this measure is to require products that are labeled, marketed, or sold as "poi" to contain a label stating whether the product was made wholly from kalo grown in the State or from kalo grown outside the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Ko'olau Foundation; and Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club.

Your Committee finds that geographic indications are signs or labels used on products that have a specific geographic origin and possess qualities or reputations that are due to that origin. For consumers, geographic indications inform consumers about a product's geographic origin and a quality or characteristic of the product linked to its place of origin.

Your Committee further finds that poi has a deep cultural and agricultural significance in Hawaii and is a traditional Hawaiian dietary staple. Through transparent geographic labeling, this measure ensures that consumers are clearly informed on the geographic origin of the kalo used in the production of the poi products they purchase, while also protecting local farmers and the integrity of the State's indigenous food systems.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting labeling requirements for products labeled, marketed, or sold as "poi" and contains kalo wholly grown in the State;
- (2) Defining "kalo"; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 890, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 890, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 2007 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 1298

The purpose of this measure is to amend the laws relating to electronic device recycling by:

- (1) Expanding the scope of covered electronic devices to include electronic device peripherals and certain legacy devices;
- (2) Requiring manufacturers' recycling plans to describe communication efforts with the State and counties to facilitate consumer education efforts;
- (3) Repealing the deadline for recycling plan implementation;
- (4) Amending the recycling goal for calendar year 2025, and specifying new recycling goals for calendar year 2026 and calendar years 2027 and thereafter;
- (5) Requiring additional information to be included in manufacturers' reports containing information for calendar years 2025, 2026, and 2027;
- (6) Requiring collectors to report certain information regarding recyclers and refurbishers and allowing the Department of Health to require submission of bills of lading and recycler receiving reports; and
- (7) Requiring the Department of Health to submit a report to the Legislature on electronic device recycling prior to the Regular Session of 2028.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Environmental Management of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Consumer Technology Association; IT Reuse Hawai'i; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Mr. K's Recycle and Redemption Center and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that electronic waste may contain hazardous materials and, consequently, should be recycled appropriately. To encourage electronic recycling, Act 151, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, established annual goals for electronic device manufacturers to collect and recycle electronic devices by weight. This mandate motivated manufacturers to increase their recycling efforts with seventy-four percent successfully meeting the goal for 2023 and seventeen percent exceeding the goal.

Your Committee further finds that electronic device manufacturers are concerned that the existing goal for calendar year 2025 may be unattainable due to electronic devices becoming lighter over time. To address this concern, this measure delays the calendar year 2025 goal to calendar year 2027 and establishes intermediate goals for calendar years 2025 and 2026.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending existing law that provides the Department of Health with discretion, rather than making it mandatory, to determine additional penalties and impose certain fines;
- (2) Deleting the requirement that the reports for calendar years 2025, 2026, and 2027, include the average age of electronic devices collected by each collector for one month of the year; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1298, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1298, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 2008 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 1245

The purpose of this measure is to mandate reimbursement for services provided by participating registered pharmacists within their scope of practice by private and public health plans in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i at Hilo; Board of Pharmacy; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Walgreen Co.; National Community Pharmacists Association; The Family Medicine Center; Moloka'i Drugs, Inc.; Hawai'i Pharmacists Association; East Hawaii Independent Physicians Association dba Big Island Docs; Times Pharmacy; The Keto Prescription Clinic; Lihue Pharmacy; KTA Pharmacy; Hawai'i Island Community Health Center; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Hawaii Medical Service Association.

Your Committee finds that the practice of pharmacy has evolved alongside significant changes in health care delivery. Patient demand on the health care system is expected to increase significantly and outpace current provider supply over the next few years. As a result, pharmacists now play a vital role in health care and are increasingly providing patient care services beyond the traditional prescription dispensing function.

Your Committee further finds that in Hawaii, pharmacies are geographically dispersed throughout the community with extended hours of operation, making access to health care provided through pharmacies convenient for patients in each locality. Patients have established relationships of trust with and recognize pharmacists as health care professionals. This measure recognizes the importance of registered pharmacists within the State's health care system and ensures the proper compensation for their services.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the provisions of this measure applicable to health insurers, mutual benefit societies, and health maintenance organizations apply to policies, contracts, plans, or agreements delivered or issued for delivery on or after January 1, 2026, rather than July 1, 2026;

- (2) Deleting language that required policies, contracts, plans, or agreements by health insurers, mutual benefit societies, and health maintenance organizations to recognize pharmacists as participating providers;
- (3) Specifying that coverage for benefits for health care services provided by a registered pharmacist shall not be denied if certain conditions are met;
- (4) Clarifying that the participation of a registered pharmacist in a policy, contract, plan, or agreement that includes coverage for prescription drug benefits does not satisfy the requirements that health insurers, mutual benefit societies, and health maintenance organizations include contracted registered pharmacists in their networks of participating providers;
- (5) Prohibiting insurers, mutual benefit societies, and health maintenance organizations from denying the ability for a registered pharmacist to contract with those entities if standard credentialing requirements are met, except for vertically integrated networks;
- (6) Specifying that insurers, mutual benefit societies, and health maintenance organizations that delegate credentialing agreements to health care facilities shall accept credentialing of registered pharmacists employed or contracted by those facilities; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1245, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1245, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 2009 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 443

The purpose of this measure is to require lands within the agricultural district that have solar energy facilities to obtain certification from the Department of Agriculture that the lands are also used for farming operations.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Land Use Commission; Agribusiness Development Corporation; Ulupono Initiative; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; 350Hawaii.org; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Hawai'i Farmers Union; and Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture and Hawaii State Energy Office.

Your Committee finds that existing law allows for the establishment of solar energy facilities placed within land with soil classified as overall productivity rating class B or C as long as the facilities do not occupy more than ten percent of the parcel, or twenty acres, whichever is less. Your Committee further finds that once agricultural land is diverted from agricultural use to other development, those lands face significant barriers in returning to food production. Consequently, it has been projected that fifty percent of class B lands and twenty percent of class C lands will be lost to solar development. This measure provides an additional safeguard before valuable agricultural land is diverted by requiring the Department of Agriculture to certify the land's concurrent use for farming operations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that lands within the agricultural district that produce wind-generated energy for public, private, and commercial use; have wind machines and wind farms; or have wind energy facilities are also required to obtain certification that the lands are also used for farming operations; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 443, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 443, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 2010 Finance on S.B. No. 1044

The purpose of this measure is to help stabilize the property insurance market in the State by:

- (1) Expanding the powers of the Hawaii Property Insurance Association and reactivating the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund and authorizing these entities to underwrite certain insurance risks that no standard insurer is currently willing to underwrite;
- (2) Appropriating funds as a loan to the Hawaii Property Insurance Association for administrative and startup costs, minimum solvency costs, and the purchase of reinsurance;
- (3) Authorizing the Director of Finance to issue general obligation bonds for deposit into the Hurricane Reserve Trust Fund to facilitate the initial issuance of policies to condominium associations; and
- (4) Requiring the Insurance Commissioner to conduct a study to identify or develop a long-term solution to stabilize the property insurance market in the State and appropriating funds for this purpose.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Green Infrastructure Authority; Waikiki Neighborhood Board; AARP Hawaii; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Mortgage Bankers Association of Hawaii; Hawaii Bankers Association; The Hawaii Association of Mortgage Brokers & Professionals; and four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Hawaii Insurers Council; Hawaii Financial Services Association; National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies; State Farm Insurance; Hawaii Property Insurance Association; and one individual.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Authorizing the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund to contract with entities specializing in providing insurance administration, in addition to licensed property and casualty insurers in the State, to act as a servicing facility;
- (2) Authorizing the issuance of \$50,000,000 in reimbursable general obligation bonds, rather than general obligation bonds;
- (3) Specifying that the existing Hurricane Reserve Trust Fund balance of funds shall be expended before reimbursable general obligation bond proceeds are deposited into the Hurricane Reserve Trust Fund; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1044, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1044, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Ward).

SCRep. 2011 Finance on S.B. No. 1042

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a two-year Mental Health Emerging Therapies Pilot Program within the Office of Wellness and Resilience to support clinical research and the development of emerging therapies for the treatment of mental and behavioral health disorders.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Aloha Integrative Mental Health; Clarity Project; Veterans Exploring Treatment Solutions; Reason for Hope; Veteran Mental Health Leadership Coalition; Beyond Mental Health; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Wellness and Resilience.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1042, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 2012 Finance on S.B. No. 1221

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the counties to adopt ordinances for the regulation of retention and detention ponds, conduct a survey of existing retention and detention ponds, and submit a report to the Legislature; and
- (2) Appropriate funds as a grant-in-aid to the counties to conduct the survey and regulate retention and detention ponds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Waikiki Neighborhood Board; Hawaiian Lifeguard Association; Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement; Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition; Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association; Hawaii Water Safety Coalition; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the requirement that county ordinances include retention pond and detention pond safety requirements regarding:
 - (A) The use of pesticides and fertilizers on surrounding ground cover;
 - (B) The installation of landscape buffers;
 - (C) The incorporation of emergency spillways; and
 - (D) The inspection and registry requirements;
- (2) Exempting retention ponds and detention ponds built on golf courses, hotels, resort properties, or other secured areas from these regulations if the property managers provide proof of sufficient security measures for their ponds;
- (3) Removing the appropriation to the counties; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1221, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1221, S.D. 2, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 2013 Finance on S.B. No. 1381

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow the Commander of the Hawaii Air National Guard to hold the rank authorized by the United States Air Force, which is currently Major General;
- (2) Authorize the Adjutant General to assign either the Chief of Staff or the Assistant Adjutant General to head the Hawaii Air National Guard; and
- (3) Authorize the pay and allowances for the Chief of Staff of the Hawaii Air National Guard to be determined according to the pay table of the United States Air Force.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Defense; Hawaii Air National Guard; and one individual.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1381, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 2014 Finance on S.B. No. 104

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Restrict the use of restrictive housing in state-operated and state-contracted correctional facilities, with certain exceptions;
- (2) Require the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to develop policies and implement procedures regarding restrictive housing by July 1, 2026, and by April 1, 2026, develop policies and implement procedures to review committed persons placed in restrictive housing and develop a plan to step down current and prospective restrictive housing commitments;
- (3) Require the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission to review certain housing placements; and

- (4) Require status reports on the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation's progress toward full compliance of this measure.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; Easterseals Hawaii; Hawai'i Friends of Restorative Justice; Community Alliance on Prisons; American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Restricting the use of restrictive housing in correctional facilities by July 1, 2026;
- (2) Deleting restrictions on the use of restrictive housing that do not comport with certain standards or best practices;
- (3) Amending various durations, deadlines, and frequency relating to the placement of committed persons in restrictive housing during a facility-wide lockdown, in emergency confinement, or in medical isolation;
- (4) Amending the prohibition on the placement of certain committed persons in restrictive housing except under certain conditions and deleting all references to members of a vulnerable population;
- (5) Amending the requirements of mandatory periodic training of staff who interact with committed persons held in restrictive housing;
- (6) Amending the scope of the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission's review of restrictive housing placements and requiring annual, rather than quarterly, reports;
- (7) Requiring a Restrictive Housing Legislative Working Group to be convened by August 1, 2025, to make recommendations by September 1, 2027, for restrictive housing for committed persons who are members of vulnerable populations, rather than requiring the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to develop policies and procedures regarding restrictive housing by July 1, 2026;
- (8) Authorizing the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to implement the recommendations of the Restrictive Housing Legislative Working Group by December 1, 2027;
- (9) Requiring interim and final reports to the Legislature and Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission; and
- (10) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 104, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 104, S.D. 2, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 2015 Finance on S.B. No. 732

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Island Film and Media Production Investment Fund and Board of Trustees to make strategic investments that support film and media production, and deposit general revenues into the Investment Fund;
- (2) Amend the Motion Picture, Digital Media, and Film Production Income Tax Credit by:
 - (A) Changing the certification requirement for qualified production costs that exceed \$1,000,000 from certification via tax opinion to a written, sworn statement accompanied by an independent third-party certificate issued by a Certified Public Accountant;
 - (B) Changing the annual aggregate cap on allowable credits;
 - (C) Including broadcast and streaming platform productions as qualified productions;
 - (D) Providing an additional five percent credit to qualified productions with a workforce of at least eighty percent local hires; and
 - (E) Requiring productions to provide evidence of contacting all local labor unions servicing Hawaii's film industry before the production start date in order to qualify for the credit;
- (3) Exempt gross proceeds arising from entertainment payroll companies from the General Excise Tax;
- (4) Apply the General Excise Tax rate for manufacturers to productions; and
- (5) Exempt from the General Excise Tax amounts received by a motion picture project employer from a client equal to amounts that are disbursed by the employer for employee wages, salaries, payroll taxes, insurance premiums, and employment benefits and payments to loan-out companies.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; Maui Film Office; Hawaii Teamsters Local 996; SAG-AFTRA Hawaii Local; 'Ohina Labs; Fandom of MagnumPI; Aloha Maui Entertainment LLC; Sergs Mexican Kitchen; Hinaaukele Distribution and Catering; My Therapist Thinks Productions, LLC; DGA; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; Palm Tree Livestock LLC; Aloha Harvest; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; Sight & Sound Productions LLC; C&C Security Inc.; KT Protection Services; Complete Tent Rentals LLC; S&S Pumping LLC; On Location Services; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Taxation; Honolulu Film Office; Motion Picture Association; IATSE Local 665; Island Film Group; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the provisions that established and appropriated funds into the Island Film and Media Production Investment Fund;
- (2) Requiring that counties waive permitting fees for certain film activity conducted on county lands until January 1, 2033;
- (3) Specifying that the annual aggregate cap on allowable credits shall be annually reduced by one-sixth of the existing cap beginning on January 1, 2028;
- (4) Repealing the income tax exemption for persons engaged in the business of motion picture and television film production for taxable years after December 31, 2032;
- (5) Repealing the reenactment on January 1, 2033, of the Motion Picture, Digital Media, and Film Production Income Tax Credit pursuant to Act 88, Session Laws of Hawaii 2006, as amended;
- (6) On January 1, 2033, repealing:

- (A) The Motion Picture, Digital Media, and Film Production Income Tax Credit;
 - (B) The General Excise Tax exemption for entertainment payroll companies;
 - (C) The application of the General Excise Tax rate for manufacturers to productions; and
 - (D) The exemption from the General Excise Tax amounts received by a motion picture project employer from a client equal to amounts that are disbursed by the employer for employee wages, salaries, payroll taxes, insurance premiums, and employment benefits and payments to loan-out companies; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 732, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 732, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 2016 Finance on S.B. No. 336

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Declare that the State has a duty to defend any professionally licensed or certified state employee from civil actions when the employee's actions were within the employee's scope of employment and were not grossly negligent or wanton, as long as the employee is cooperating with the State's defense;
- (2) Clarify that professionally licensed or certified state employees may employ their own attorneys at their own expense;
- (3) Require the Attorney General to work with the professionally licensed or certified state employee to amicably transfer representation to the successor counsel chosen by the employee if the State declines to defend the employee from a civil action on certain grounds; and
- (4) Require the Attorney General to file a confidential motion to withdraw as counsel if the Attorney General and professionally licensed or certified state employee cannot amicably transfer representation to the successor counsel.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Association for Justice; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; and Hawai'i State Teachers Association.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 336, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 336, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Ward).

SCRep. 2017 Finance on S.B. No. 227

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a temporary Illegal Fireworks Enforcement Division within the Department of Law Enforcement; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to the Department for the operation of the Division, to reimburse law enforcement agencies for Division-related law enforcement operations, and to establish positions within the Division.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from three individuals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the number of full-time equivalent positions to unspecified numbers; and
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 227, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 227, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14; Ayes with Reservations (Alcos). Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Ward).

SCRep. 2018 Finance on S.B. No. 903

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for the hiring of necessary staff and purchase of equipment and professional services on behalf of the Public Land Trust Working Group.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from two individuals.

Prior to the hearing on this measure, your Committee posted and made available for public review a proposed H.D. 2, which:

- (1) Deletes the appropriation to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs;
- (2) Amends the membership and responsibilities of the Working Group, with the responsibilities to include accounting for all ceded lands and income and proceeds from the public land trust and determining the Office of Hawaiian Affairs' annual pro rata share of income and proceeds from the public land trust;
- (3) Requires the Working Group to submit reports to the Legislature;
- (4) By October 1, 2027, requires the State, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and other applicable parties to begin preliminary negotiations regarding the final draft settlement of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs' pro rata share of income and proceeds from the public land trust;

- (5) Appropriates \$500,000 for fiscal years 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 to the Legislative Reference Bureau to retain independent third-party professionals for the purposes of Act 226, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, subject to matching funds from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; and
- (6) Makes the measure effective upon its approval, with the appropriation effective on July 1, 2025.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to the proposed H.D. 2 from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. Your Committee received comments on the proposed H.D. 2 from the Legislative Reference Bureau.

Your Committee notes that some of the parties expressed interest that the Public Land Trust Working Group determine:

- (1) The process of calculating the total amount owed to clear all future claims of Office of Hawaiian Affairs against the State; and
- (2) A process by which the Office of Hawaiian Affairs may negotiate a master settlement with the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by adopting the proposed H.D. 2 and further amending the measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 903, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 903, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 15; Ayes with Reservations (Grandinetti, Hussey, Alcos, Reyes Oda). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 2019 Finance on S.B. No. 1117

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit a person from operating a moped or electric motorcycle in certain areas designated for bicycles;
- (2) Rename the Electric Bicycle and Electric Moped Rebate Program as the Electric Mobility Device Rebate Program and amend the program by expanding eligibility requirements and maximum rebate amounts, shortening the time within which to claim a rebate, and offering an additional assistance rebate for certain students in financial need;
- (3) Exempt certain class 3 electric bicycles from registration requirements;
- (4) Establish a cap for the Electric Mobility Device Subaccount, which is used to fund the Electric Mobility Rebate Program, and requirements for transferring funds into the Subaccount;
- (5) Amend age requirements for required helmet use while operating a bicycle or electric foot scooter, operation of a class 3 electric bicycle, and operation of an electric motorcycle or motor-driven cycle;
- (6) Prohibit certain acts during electric bicycle operation and allow use of electric bicycles on public sidewalks under certain conditions; and
- (7) Appropriate funds for the Electric Mobility Rebate Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency of the City and County of Honolulu; Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition; and Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Transportation; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Ulupono Initiative; and PeopleForBikes.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the cap on the total amount of rebates that the Department of Transportation may issue within a fiscal year to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the Electric Mobility Device Subaccount balance cap to an unspecified amount;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1117, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1117, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Hussey, Alcos, Ward).

SCRep. 2020 Finance on S.B. No. 1667

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the design features and speeds, when planning and managing state highways in certain areas, to be appropriately determined by standards adopted by the National Association of City Transportation Officials or American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials;
- (2) Establish responsibilities and requirements for the State Highway Safety and Modernization Council;
- (3) Authorize the State Highway Safety and Modernization Council to select potential areas for the Department of Transportation to install up to ten additional photo red light imaging detector systems;
- (4) Prohibit any vehicle from blocking marked crosswalks and establish a fine for violations;
- (5) Authorize the Department of Transportation to implement additional automated speed enforcement systems in school zones identified as most dangerous by the Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee;
- (6) Require the Department of Transportation to collaborate with the district courts before any expansion of the photo red light imaging detector and automated speed enforcement systems programs; and
- (7) Appropriate funds to the Department of Transportation and Judiciary.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice; and Hawai'i Bicycling League. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary and Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the provision that authorized the Department of Transportation to transfer appropriated funds to county agencies to effectuate the purposes of this measure; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1667, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1667, S.D. 2, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

SCRep. 2021 Finance on S.B. No. 1571

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Exempt all positions filled by the Hawaii Tourism Authority within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism from the state civil service law;
- (2) Designate the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority as an advisory board; and
- (3) Amend the eligibility requirements to serve on the Hawaii Tourism Authority board of directors by repealing the two-year waiting period for former Hawaii Visitors and Convention Bureau board members.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, ALF-CIO; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority a position appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1571, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1571, S.D. 2, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hussey, Ward).

SCRep. 2022 Finance on S.B. No. 589

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Public Utilities Commission to establish a goal of installing fifty thousand new installations of customer-sited distributed energy resources by December 31, 2030;
- (2) Require the Public Utilities Commission to use tariffs for grid services programs, microgrids, and community-based renewable energy;
- (3) Require sufficient compensation for solar and energy storage exports to the electric grid and require the Public Utilities Commission to establish grid service compensation values;
- (4) Specify that persons who construct, maintain, or operate a new microgrid are not considered a public utility solely due to furnishing service to consumers through that new microgrid; and
- (5) Authorize intragovernmental wheeling of renewable energy and require the Public Utilities Commission to establish policies and procedures to implement intragovernmental wheeling and microgrid service tariffs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Energy Connection; LegaSea Energy; Hawaii Solar Energy Association; Solaray Corporation; Coalition Earth; Alternate Energy Hawaii; and eight individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1260 and Hawaiian Electric. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Public Utilities Commission; Life of the Land; Ulupono Initiative; Blue Planet Foundation; and Holu Hou Energy.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 589, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 589, S.D. 1, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 12; Ayes with Reservations (Grandinetti, Hussey). Noes, 2 (Alcos, Reyes Oda). Excused, 2 (Holt, Ward).

SCRep. 2023 Finance on S.B. No. 1396

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend the Transient Accommodations Tax rate beginning on January 1, 2027;
- (2) Assess the Transient Accommodations Tax on cruise ship cabins, prorated by the percentage of total time the cruise ship is docked at any port in the State; and
- (3) Appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the protection, management, and restoration of the State's natural resources; environmental stewardship; climate and hazard mitigation; and sustainable tourism.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawai'i Climate Advisory Team; Coalition Earth; Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Kupu; Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement; Hawai'i Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations; Hawaii Ocean Legislative Task Force; Hawaii Food+ Policy; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Resources Legacy Fund; Hawai'i Workforce Funders Collaborative; The Nature Conservancy Hawai'i and Palmyra; Vibrant Hawai'i; Coral Reef Alliance; Wildfire Safety Advocates of Waikoloa; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Activities and Attractions Association of Hawaii; Hawaii Mid- and Short-Term Rental Alliance; O'ahu Short-Term Rental Alliance; Kona Kai LLC; Serendipity Associates; Maui Hotel & Lodging Association; Norwegian Cruise Line Holding Ltd; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Honu Hawaii Home, LLC; Maui Vacation Rental Association; ARDA Hawaii; Kohala Coast Resort Association; Ala Wai House LLC; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of the Governor; Recovery and Resiliency Unit; Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Department of Taxation; Hawai'i Tourism Authority; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Hawai'i State Energy Office; Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Mālama Learning Center; Cruise Lines International Association; Care for 'Āina Now Coalition; Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i; Hawai'i Green Growth Local2030 Hub; 'Āina Aloha Economic Futures; Hawai'i Wildfire Management Organization; Tax Foundation of Hawaii; Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association; and six individuals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adjusting the allowable uses of the Special Land and Development Fund;
- (2) Removing the requirement that Transient Accommodations Tax allocations to the Special Land and Development Fund be expended in accordance with the Hawaii Tourism Authority Strategic Plan; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1396, S.D. 3, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1396, S.D. 3, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14; Ayes with Reservations (Reyes Oda). Noes, 1 (Alcos). Excused, none.

SCRep. 2024 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1343

The purpose of this measure is to amend the minimum quorum and voting requirements for the Small Business Regulatory Review Board to conduct its business and validate its actions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and Small Business Regulatory Review Board.

Your Committee finds that the quorum requirements for the Small Business Regulatory Review Board, which consists of eleven members, should be amended to ensure the Board has the ability to function without interruption at monthly meetings. This measure decreases the number of members required for quorum from six to five, providing the Small Business Regulatory Review Board with greater flexibility to conduct board meetings.

Your Committee has amended this measure by clarifying that members appointed, but not yet confirmed, to serve on the Small Business Regulatory Review Board qualify as members for the purposes of quorum requirements.

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 S.B. No. 1343, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1343, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 2025 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1454

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to issue an order of wage payment violation when it finds that a violation has occurred without remedy;
- (2) Clarify the definition of "wage" to mean compensation for labor or services rendered by an employee, without regard of how the amount is calculated; and
- (3) Establish penalties for employers that commit wage payment violations.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and Hawaii Workers Center.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations has the authority to issue orders of wage payment violations under the Payment of Wages and Other Compensation Law, but lacks similar authority under the Wage and Hour Law, which encompasses a larger group of low-wage earners. This measure ensures that all workers that earn any amount of compensation are equally protected by authorizing the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to issue orders of wage payment violations, establishing penalties, enforcement, and an appeals process, and clarifying that "wage" means compensation for labor rendered by an employee, regardless of how it was calculated under the Wage and Hour Law.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that all civil penalties collected under this measure are to be deposited into the Labor Law Enforcement Special Fund; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1454, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1454, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 2026 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1651

The purpose of this measure is to require:

- (1) Board packets to be posted two full business days before a public meeting; and
- (2) Boards to provide notice to persons who have requested notification of meetings when the board packets are made available for public inspection.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission; Disability and Communication Access Board; Public First Law Center; Society of Professional Journalists, Hawaii Chapter; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Information Practices.

Your Committee finds that in 2024, state law was amended to require board packets to be posted no later than two business days before a public meeting to give the public ample time to review the materials. However, some agencies have interpreted this amendment to mean that a board packet can be posted at any time during the second business day before the public meeting. This measure aims to clarify the deadline for posting board packets, ensuring adequate time for boards to prepare their materials and for the public to review them before the meeting.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that board packets must be posted no later than two full business days before the meeting; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that the intent of this measure is for board packets to be posted no later than six hours before the close of business on the second business day before the meeting.

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 S.B. No. 1651, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1651, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 2027 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1099

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Land Use Commission to designate any county or state lands as Important Agricultural Lands, and adopt maps for the designated lands, in counties that fail to identify and recommend important agricultural lands by December 31, 2027.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture; Land Use Commission; and Hawai'i Farm Bureau.

Your Committee finds that the designation of Important Agricultural Lands helps ensure the conservation, protection, and long-term agricultural viability of certain lands. Your Committee further finds that this designation process relies on the counties' identification and recommendation of lands. This measure ensures that the Land Use Commission can designate county and state lands as Important Agricultural Lands if the counties fail to identify and recommend such lands.

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 S.B. No. 1099, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 2028 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1511

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit vessels longer than seventy-five feet from entering Hanalei Bay; and
- (2) Exempt vessels operated by a federal, state, or county agency from this prohibition.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Mayor of the County of Kaua'i; Hanalei-Wainiha-Hā'ena Community Association; and Hanalei Watershed Hui. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that there has been an increase in the number of large vessels mooring in Hanalei Bay, posing a risk to the health and safety of individuals and families participating in ocean activities in the area. This measure promotes boating and ocean safety and preserves the rural character of Hanalei Town by prohibiting large vessels from entering Hanalei Bay.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing its effective date to upon approval.

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 S.B. No. 1511, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1511, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 2029 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 321

The purpose of this measure is to require that fee simple absolute title of a privately owned highway, road, alley, street, way, lane, bikeway, bridge, or trail be deemed transferred to adjacent property owners or community associations if certain conditions are met.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Land Title Association; Mortgage Bankers Association of Hawaii; and Hawaii Financial Services Association.

Your Committee finds that in the absence of clear ownership, privately owned streets, roads, and other infrastructure in subdivisions may lead to legal disputes or ambiguity over responsibility when the subdivider has dissolved or ceased to exist. Such circumstances, coupled with the lack of formal dedication to the State or county, may result in prolonged uncertainty regarding the ownership and maintenance obligations of these facilities.

Your Committee further finds that concerns were raised regarding this measure and the lack of procedures to determine real property ownership over private streets, which could lead to unintended consequences. One way to ensure certainty over ownership of private streets would be to require a court to provide an order to transfer title of these private streets. A court process would provide appropriate notice, define the parties and property in question, determine any maintenance obligations, settle any disputes over ownership, and provide a transfer of title that can then be recorded with the Bureau of Conveyances or Land Court.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting its substantive contents and inserting language that establishes a process for transferring fee simple absolute title of orphan streets to adjacent property owners under certain conditions, such as when the subdivider has dissolved, has ceased to exist, or is deceased, and includes legal procedures for filing the action for transfer; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 321, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 321, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 2030 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 822

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a three-year Residential Landlord-Tenant Code Working Group to research and improve the Residential-Landlord Tenant Code; and
- (2) Require an initial report to the Legislature prior to the Regular Session of 2026 and a final report no later than July 1, 2028.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary; Office of Housing and Community Development of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; and Hawaii Workers Center. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that rental housing is a critical component of Hawaii's housing market, with a significant portion of residents relying on rental properties for stability. However, the complexity of landlord-tenant laws and legal proceedings creates challenges for landlords and tenants, often leading to disputes, uncertainty, and an increased burden on the judicial system. This measure will facilitate collaboration among key stakeholders to identify issues, develop solutions, and enhance the rental housing market, ultimately increasing housing availability and stability for Hawaii residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Placing the Residential Landlord-Tenant Code Working Group (Working Group) within the Judiciary, rather than the Department of the Attorney General, and updating the membership of the Working Group;
- (2) Amending the scope of the Working Group;
- (3) Deleting the savings clause; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 822, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 822, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 2031 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1028

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit the assessment of any fees, fines, or court costs against a person who was adjudicated for an offense committed while the person was a minor under the age of eighteen, or against the person's parent or guardian;
- (2) Limit court-ordered community service for a minor to no more than seventy-two hours; and
- (3) Repeal certain penalties imposed on parents, guardians, or other persons associated with unaccompanied children in streets and unmarried minors in dance halls.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Juvenile Justice State Advisory Council; National Center for Youth Law; Mālama Mākua; Community Alliance on Prisons; Debt Free Justice Hawai'i; American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i; 'Ekolu Mea Nui; Nā 'Ōpio Waiwai; The Youth Council of 'Ekolu Mea Nui; Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that imposing fees, fines, and court costs on minors involved in the juvenile justice system is an ineffective and harmful practice, placing an undue financial burden on the minor or their family. Rather than serving as a meaningful form of accountability, these penalties often deepen economic struggles and fail to achieve rehabilitation or deterrence. Your Committee also notes that many states have recognized these challenges and have taken steps to eliminate or reform juvenile justice-related fees and fines. This measure aligns Hawaii with these national efforts by prohibiting the assessment of such costs against minors and their families, thereby promoting a more equitable and evidence-based approach to juvenile justice.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the prohibitions on the assessment of costs:
 - (A) Against a minor who commits an offense of operating a vehicle under the influence of an intoxicant, habitually operating a vehicle under the influence of an intoxicant, or operating a vehicle after consuming a measurable amount of alcohol; and
 - (B) Incurred by the family courts for the detention, placement, care, or support and treatment of minors; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1028, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1028, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 2 (Garcia, Shimizu). Excused, 2 (Cochran, Hashem).

SCRep. 2032 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1322

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify emergency transportation, examination, and hospitalization procedures for individuals who may be mentally ill or suffering from substance abuse and are imminently dangerous to self or others;
- (2) Establish limitations on liability for state and county governments, private sector and nonprofit organizations, state and county employees, and certain health care professionals from emergency procedures;
- (3) Require treatment providers to provide relevant treatment information to the Department of the Attorney General, upon the Department's request, for purposes of preparing a petition for assisted community treatment;
- (4) Amend the procedures for involuntary hospitalizations and assisted community treatment petitions;
- (5) Clarify the circumstances under which a subject of an order for assisted community treatment can be administered medication over the subject's objection;
- (6) Establish limitations on liability for assisted community treatment providers; and
- (7) Allow a single psychiatrist, rather than a panel of three, to provide administrative authorization for medical treatment over the objection of a patient who is in the custody of the Director of Health and in a psychiatric facility.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General; Department of Health; Department of Law Enforcement; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; The Institute for Human Services, Inc.; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaii Disability Rights Center and ACLU Hawai'i. Your Committee received comments on this measure from The Queen's Health Systems; Hawai'i Pacific Health; and Adventist Health Castle.

Your Committee finds that the number of individuals in need of mental health assistance is growing and that there is a need to update the State's mental health laws to reduce complexity and improve the legal mechanisms available to assist these individuals. This measure updates and clarifies certain mental health laws in order to enhance the State's ability to assist and provide treatment for individuals in need of mental health support.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Department of Health to submit annual reports to the Legislature on emergency transportations and assisted community treatment petitions and orders, based on information provided by service providers;
- (2) Clarifying that a law enforcement officer may temporarily detain an individual at law enforcement facilities if the individual is in need of an emergency examination and the officer is unable to reach a mental health emergency worker;
- (3) Amending the procedures for emergency transportations initiated by health care providers;
- (4) Extending the duration of emergency hospitalizations from forty-eight hours to seventy-two hours;
- (5) Deleting language that would have established limitations on liability for state and county governments, private sector and nonprofit organizations, state and county employees, and certain health care professionals from emergency procedures;
- (6) Clarifying the procedures for when an individual fails to comply with an order for assisted community treatment;
- (7) Deleting language that would have established limitations on liability for assisted community treatment providers;
- (8) Deleting language that would have allowed a single psychiatrist, rather than a panel of three, to provide administrative authorization for medical treatment over the objection of a patient who is in the custody of the Director of Health and in a psychiatric facility; and
- (9) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1322, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1322, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kahaloa).

SCRep. 2033 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1429

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Department of Health to impose penalties and take enforcement actions for violations of the medical cannabis laws;
- (2) Retroactively repeal the prohibition against primary caregivers cultivating medical cannabis for their qualifying patients and authorize primary caregivers to cultivate cannabis in an amount not to exceed an adequate supply for the qualifying patient;
- (3) Extend until July 1, 2027, the effective date of certain interim rules adopted by the Department of Health related to the medical cannabis dispensary system; and
- (4) Extend until June 30, 2029, the sunset date for the exemption from civil service of personnel hired by, or contracts entered into by, the Department of Health for purposes of the medical cannabis dispensary system.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Libertarian Party of Hawaii; Oahu Cannabis Farms Alliance; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii; Akamai Cannabis Consulting; and Hawai'i Cannabis Industry Association.

Your Committee finds that qualifying patients in Hawaii should have safe and legal access to medical cannabis through multiple authorized sources, including licensed dispensaries and caregivers. Your Committee further finds that the inclusion of enforcement authority in this measure is essential for effective regulation, maintaining compliance, protecting public health, and addressing emerging challenges in the evolving medical cannabis industry.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1429, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1429, S.D. 2, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Kahaloa).

SCRep. 2034 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 281

The purpose of this measure is to establish the offense of torture as a class A felony in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; Honolulu Police Department; Hawaii County Police Department; Family Prosecution Division of the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; Domestic Violence and Child Abuse Felony Division of the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; Honolulu Fire Department; Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Hawai'i; Hawai'i State Chapter of Children's Justice Centers; and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender.

Your Committee finds that under existing law, the State only punishes torture as an aggravating circumstance for murder. Even application of that sentence has been substantially weakened because the prosecution must prove that the torture inflicted was "unnecessary". Your Committee also finds that in 2024, there were several cases involving the torture of children; however, existing laws provided no framework to charge and penalize the perpetrators appropriately. Your Committee believes that it is essential to distinguish between abuse and torture, as they differ in severity, and the penalties should reflect that distinction. The prohibitions established under this measure accurately reflect the severity of torture and ensure that offenders are held accountable for the magnitude of their crimes.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Including a definition for "restricts"; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 281, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 281, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 2035 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 253

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require condominium association budget summaries to include all required information without referring the reader to other portions of the budget or reserve study;
- (2) Provide that the defense of good faith compliance is unavailable to any condominium association whose board adopts a budget that omits the required detailed budget summary; and
- (3) Provide that a unit owner has standing to enforce a board's compliance with the statutory provisions relating to a condominium association's budget, if the board failed to substantially comply with those provisions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; Community Associations Institute; Hawaii First Realty; and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Honolulu Tower AOA; Palehua Townhouse Association; Law Offices of Mark K. McKellar, LLC; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that while previous efforts by the Legislature have improved transparency regarding condominium association fiscal matters, further steps are necessary to ensure full compliance with the disclosure of budget summaries and reserve studies. Your Committee believes there is a need for explicit clarification regarding the unavailability of the good faith defense for associations whose boards fail to include a detailed budget summary and for ensuring that unit owners have standing to enforce compliance. This measure strengthens transparency and promotes greater accountability.

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 S.B. No. 253, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 9. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 2036 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 1035

The purpose of this measure is to make it an unfair or deceptive act or practice for businesses to:

- (1) Offer, display, or advertise the price of live-ticket events or short-term lodging without clearly and conspicuously disclosing the total price; and
- (2) Misrepresent any fees or charges in any offer, display, or advertisement for the sale of live-event tickets or short-term lodging.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Hawaii Hotel Alliance and American Hotel & Lodging Association. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Financial Services Association.

Your Committee finds that the ability for a consumer to identify the true price of a good or service is a necessity for a properly functioning economy. Your Committee further finds that consumers have expressed frustration with the use of hidden resort fees and other mandatory charges by hotels and misleading

ticket prices for live events. This measure seeks to deter certain deceptive business practices relating to live-ticket sales and short-term lodging by mandating certain price and fee disclosures.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 1035, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1035, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 2037 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 332

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit sellers of mortgaged properties in a power of sale foreclosure from bundling properties at a public sale and require each mortgaged property to be bid on separately; and
- (2) Specify that the sale of a foreclosed property is not final until the earlier of either fifteen days after the public sale, if an eligible bidder submits a subsequent bid or written notice of intent to submit a subsequent bid, or forty-five days after the public sale, if an eligible bidder submits a subsequent bid.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from ‘Ahahui O Hawai‘i; Lāhainā Strong; Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation; Lahaina Community Land Trust; and eight individuals.

Your Committee finds that natural disasters and economic crises often lead to foreclosures, resulting in the loss of owner-occupied homes to investors, which can cause vacancies and property neglect. Your Committee believes it is crucial to ensure foreclosed homes remain accessible to tenants, families, and community organizations, as proposed by this measure, thereby protecting housing opportunities for local residents and community organizations and preventing the further erosion of affordable housing stock.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 332, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 332, S.D. 1, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 2038 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 602

The purpose of this measure is to provide conditions under which all parcels under the jurisdiction of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority and authority offices and facilities shall be closed to the public so that trespassing violations may be prosecuted as criminal trespass in the second degree.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that public housing residents frequently experience vandalism, property damage, excessive noise, and unsanitary conditions in parking areas and vacant land parcels under the jurisdiction of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority. Many of these issues are caused by individuals who do not reside in the public housing facilities, leading to safety concerns and decreased quality of life for residents. This measure will help reduce trespassing and nuisances, ultimately creating a safer and more livable environment for public housing residents, by clearly designating certain areas as closed to the public, implementing proper signage, and empowering law enforcement to address violations.

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 S.B. No. 602 and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 2039 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 771

The purpose of this measure is to remove the restrictions on who may serve as the Chairperson of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Board of Directors.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Your Committee believes that the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation Board of Directors should be given flexibility in determining its leadership to allow for the most qualified member of the Board to lead as Chairperson, regardless of a member's designation.

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 S.B. No. 771, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 2 (Garcia, Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 2040 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 38

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit a county legislative body from imposing stricter conditions than the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation, stricter area median income requirements, or a reduction in fee waivers to housing development proposals that would increase the cost of the project.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and Housing Hawai‘i’s Future. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu; one member of the Honolulu City Council; Hawai‘i State Association of Counties; and Lāhainā Strong. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii is facing a severe housing crisis, with a shortage of affordable housing that disproportionately affects working families and low-income residents. The development of housing projects is often delayed or made more costly due to inconsistent zoning, planning, and regulatory requirements imposed by different levels of government. This measure will facilitate the timely construction of affordable housing and streamline approval processes, thereby making homes more accessible and reducing costs for Hawaii residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 38, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 38, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti). Noes, 3 (Poepoe, Perruso, Garcia). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 2041 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 146

The purpose of this measure is to amend the conditions and procedures of alternative dispute resolution methods for condominium-related disputes, including the use of evaluative mediation or binding arbitration.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Community Associations Institute and Hawaii First Realty. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Law Offices of Mark K. McKellar, LLLC; Hawaii Council of Community Associations; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Real Estate Commission and one individual.

Your Committee finds that condominium-related disputes, including issues related to delinquent assessments, enforcement of declarations and bylaws, and violations of house rules, often lead to prolonged litigation, increased costs, and a burden on the court system. This measure seeks to reduce the financial burden on condominium associations and unit owners, expedite dispute resolution, and ensure that Hawaii's condominium community benefits from more accessible and cost-effective legal processes.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring each party to a binding arbitration to pay a fee of \$150 to the arbitrator, except under certain circumstances;
- (2) Clarifying that an arbitrator must have at least five years of experience as a licensed attorney;
- (3) Clarifying the circumstances under which a mediation agreement is voidable if certain disclosures are not made; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 146, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 146, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti). Noes, 2 (Garcia, Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 2042 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 106

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a three-year Pedestrian Safety Pilot Program in each county with a population of two hundred fifty thousand or less, under certain conditions, that authorizes pedestrians to cross outside of a marked crosswalk;
- (2) Authorize the Governor to revoke or abolish the Pedestrian Safety Pilot Program and overturn a county's request to opt-out of the Pilot Program;
- (3) Authorize a county with a population of over two hundred fifty thousand to participate in the Pedestrian Safety Pilot Program, subject to certain conditions;
- (4) Require the Department of Transportation to provide biannual reports to the Legislature on the impact of the Pedestrian Safety Pilot Program; and
- (5) Require a driver of a vehicle to yield to a pedestrian when the pedestrian clearly indicates their intent to cross a roadway within a crosswalk.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice; Get Fit Kaua'i; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; ACLU Hawai'i; and five individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Transportation; Mayor of the County of Kaua'i; Honolulu Police Department; Maui Police Department; Department of Public Works of the County of Hawai'i; Department of Public Works of the County of Kaua'i; Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health and one individual.

Your Committee finds that pedestrian mobility is an essential part of a sustainable and accessible transportation system. Your Committee also finds that from 2018 to 2023 there were 30,168 jaywalking citations given in Hawaii, with an average of 5,028 jaywalking citations per year, not including sealed cases or records for minors. Authorizing pedestrians to cross the street in a safe manner without fear of incurring a fine will promote equity in a transportation network that has historically favored the unimpeded movement of vehicles. This measure will reduce the inconveniences associated with walking which encourages residents to reduce their vehicle use. Your Committee also believes that counties with smaller populations may be better suited to test pedestrian-friendly policies without jeopardizing the safety of pedestrians.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have established fines for pedestrians if they engaged in behavior that created an immediate danger of collision with a moving vehicle; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 106, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 106, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, 2 (Garcia, Shimizu). Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 2043 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.B. No. 438

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit landfill units on land in an agricultural district having soil classified by the Land Study Bureau's detailed land classification as overall (master) productivity rating class A;
- (2) Prohibit the construction, modification, or expansion of any waste or disposal facility for solid waste or hazardous waste on land that is near or above a significant aquifer;
- (3) Beginning July 1, 2025, narrow the existing prohibition on the construction, modification, or expansion of waste or disposal facilities within a one-half mile buffer zone of residential, school, or hospital property lines to apply specifically to landfill units or components of landfill units;
- (4) Beginning July 1, 2025, prohibit the construction, modification, or expansion of a landfill unit, or any component of a landfill unit, within a no pass zone in a county with a population greater than five hundred thousand, with certain exemptions; and
- (5) Prohibit the use of fly ash, bottom ash, or combination of fly ash and bottom ash from a municipal waste combustor for certain purposes and impose requirements for the disposal of these materials.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Honolulu Board of Water Supply; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Makakilo/Kapolei/Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board No. 34; Green Party of Hawai'i; Dole Food Company Hawaii; Zero Waste Kauai; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Energy Justice Network; Country Talk Story; We Are One, Inc.; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Shimanchu Wai Protectors; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Health; Mayor of the County of Maui; Department of Environmental Management of the County of Hawai'i; Department of Environmental Services of the City and County of Honolulu; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Mayor of the County of Kaua'i; Department of Public Works of the County of Kaua'i; Prince Kūhiō Hawaiian Civic Club; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Reworld; and Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs.

Your Committee finds that the State must take preemptive action to ensure that agricultural lands and freshwater sources are protected from contamination by landfill units.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have prohibited the construction, modification, or expansion of any waste or disposal facility for solid waste or hazardous waste on land that is near or above a significant aquifer;
- (2) Prohibiting the construction, modification, or expansion of a landfill unit, or any component of a landfill unit, inland of an underground injection control line, instead of within a no pass zone, in a county with a population greater than five hundred thousand;
- (3) Deleting language that would have prohibited the use of fly ash, bottom ash, or combination of fly ash and bottom ash from a municipal waste combustor for certain purposes and imposed requirements for the disposal of these materials; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 438, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 438, S.D. 2, H.D. 3.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia, Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Cochran).

SCRep. 2044 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.B. No. 532

The purpose of this measure is to authorize public school employees or agents who have completed appropriate training to administer medications to students consistent with standards applicable to school health assistants.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Education; University of Hawai'i at Mānoa School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene; John A. Burns School of Medicine at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa; and Hawai'i – American Nurses Association.

Your Committee finds that access to certain medications during school may be necessary for the attendance of students with a health condition. School health assistants play a vital student support role by administering needed medications to students. Under existing law, only school health assistants are authorized to administer routine medications. The reliance on a single person naturally creates challenges to consistent and efficient service delivery. The school health assistants cannot be in multiple locations at once, such as field trips, emergencies, or while assisting other students. This measure expands the pool of authorized persons able to administer medications to include properly trained volunteers, which will help maintain continuity of health services while upholding established safety and training standards.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 532, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 532, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

SCRep. 2045 Higher Education on S.C.R. No. 138

The purpose of this measure is to request the Auditor to perform a management and performance audit of the Office of the Vice President for Academic Strategy of the University of Hawaii.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i and University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that the University of Hawaii's Office of the Vice President for Academic Strategy is responsible for overseeing system-wide policies, programs, and initiatives that shape the institution's academic quality, career pathways, workforce pipelines, and performance metrics. Your Committee further finds that, to ensure alignment between the University of Hawaii's plan to develop career pathways and the State's industry needs, a management and performance audit of the Office of the Vice President for Academic Strategy of the University of Hawaii is needed to provide valuable insights to the efficiency, effectiveness, and impact of programs and initiatives under the Office's scope.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Auditor is requested to submit the audit of the Office of the Vice President for Academic Strategy of the University of Hawaii, rather than a report, to the Legislature; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 138, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 138, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Amato, Evslin, Woodson, Souza).

SCRep. 2046 Higher Education on S.C.R. No. 142

The purpose of this measure is to request the Office of the Auditor to conduct a performance audit of the University of Hawaii at Manoa Athletics Department.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that the University of Hawaii at Manoa Athletics Department (Athletics Department) is responsible for the operations of various student sports teams, the teams' training and performance, travel as necessary, and for providing educational and mental health support for their athletes. To support these efforts, the Athletics Department receives funding from private donors, the University of Hawaii, legislative appropriations, and various sport-specific distributions.

Your Committee further finds that an evaluation of the Athletics Department's use of its funds is necessary for the improvement and efficiency of the Athletics Department as a whole. Additionally, your Committee believes that the performance audit, as requested by this measure, will be beneficial for the incoming Athletics Director, giving the Director a better understanding on the current use and management of Athletics Department funds and how to improve in those areas.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 142, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 142, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Amato, Evslin, Woodson, Souza).

SCRep. 2047 Higher Education on S.C.R. No. 192

The purpose of this measure is to request the University of Hawaii System to establish a Veterinary Medicine Expansion Working Group to explore the feasibility of developing a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program at Windward Community College.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaiian Humane Society. Your Committee received comments on this measure from University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that the State is experiencing a critical shortage of veterinarians, especially in rural areas and for large animal and agricultural veterinary services. The lack of a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program drives aspiring veterinarians to seek education outside of the State, which can increase financial burdens and reduce the likelihood that a newly licensed veterinarian will return to the State to practice. Your Committee believes that establishing a working group to explore the feasibility of developing a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine pathway will help address Hawaii's veterinary workforce shortages.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Broadening the scope of the Veterinary Medicine Expansion Working Group's directive to the entire University of Hawaii System, rather than to only Windward Community College;
- (2) Requesting the following to serve as members of the Working Group:
 - (A) The President of the University of Hawaii, or the President's designee, who is further requested to serve as the chairperson of the Working Group; and
 - (B) The Chancellor of University of Hawaii at Hilo, or the Chancellor's designee;
- (3) Directing a certified copy of this measure to the Chancellor of the University of Hawaii at Hilo;
- (4) Deleting certain findings relating to the expansion of Windward Community College's existing Veterinary Technology program to include a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine pathway;
- (5) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 192, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 192, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Amato, Evslin, Woodson, Souza).

SCRep. 2048 Higher Education on S.C.R. No. 193

The purpose of this measure is to request the University of Hawaii Community Colleges to develop a comprehensive list of bachelor's degree programs and other innovative workforce development pathways that directly align with job opportunities and industry needs within their respective region of service.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's economic vitality depends on a skilled workforce that meets the needs of key regional industries. Your Committee further finds that each of the University of Hawaii Community Colleges play a vital role in providing accessible, regionally-relevant higher education that supports local economic development. Your Committee believes that the University of Hawaii Community Colleges can best support the economic needs within their respective region of service by developing a comprehensive list of Bachelor's degree programs and other innovative workforce development pathways that directly align with job opportunities and industry needs within their respective region of service.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 193, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Labor in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 193, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Amato, Evslin, Woodson, Souza).

SCRep. 2049 Higher Education on S.C.R. No. 203

The purpose of this measure is to request the University of Hawaii to explore the feasibility of establishing an Alzheimer's Disease Research Center and identify the requirements for receiving federal funding from the National Institute on Aging for Alzheimer's disease research.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the John A. Burns School of Medicine of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa; State Health Planning and Development Agency; and Alzheimer's Association.

Your Committee finds that Alzheimer's disease is a significant public health issue affecting millions of Americans, including many residents of the State. Your Committee further finds that National Institute on Aging-designated Alzheimer's Disease Research Centers are a national resource for research on the nature of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and the development of more effective approaches to prevention, diagnosis, care, and therapy. Your Committee believes that exploring the feasibility of establishing of an Alzheimer's Disease Research Center in the State is warranted, as the establishment of a Center would advance scientific research, improve diagnosis and treatment, and provide better care for those suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 203 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Amato, Evslin, Woodson, Souza).

SCRep. 2050 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.C.R. No. 198

The purpose of this measure is to encourage Hawaii insurers and the Hawaii Property Insurance Association to reduce insurance costs on local residents by pursuing subrogation claims against polluters who knowingly engaged in misleading and deceptive practices regarding the connection between their products and climate change.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Center for Climate Integrity; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; 350Hawaii.org; and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the increase in climate-related disasters has contributed to the destabilization of the State's insurance industry, leading to rising premiums and increasing non-renewal rates as a result of payouts for climate-related damages. Your Committee further finds that certain polluters in the fossil fuel industry have been aware of their contribution to the climate crisis yet have engaged in misleading practices that skew the connection between their products and climate change. This measure encourages insurers to pursue claims against polluters who engage in such practices and thereby lower insurance costs for residents.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 198, S.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 2051 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.C.R. No. 111

The purpose of this measure is to acknowledge that climate change poses a dire threat to public health, declare a public health emergency in the State, and request entities statewide to actively examine how the climate considerations within their departments impact human health and coordinate with other departments to identify, plan for, and create cross-sector solutions to strengthen Hawaii's public health response to the climate crisis.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Hawaii Climate Change and Health Working Group; 350Hawaii.org; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Coalition Earth; and eight individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Wahine o Kohala and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that climate change adversely impacts human health through increased heat, vector-borne diseases, crop failure, food and water insecurity, and air pollution. Your Committee further finds that the State's response to the climate crisis must involve efforts to address impacts on public health. This measure helps acknowledge the threat that climate change poses to public health and encourages a statewide, coordinated effort to develop a public health response to climate change.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 111 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Health.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 2052 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.C.R. No. 110

The purpose of this measure is to request the Hawaii State Energy Office to conduct a study evaluating the feasibility of establishing a green bonds program in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Coalition Earth and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii State Energy Office.

Your Committee finds that there is a need for additional public resources and funding for efforts to address climate change in the State. Your Committee further finds that other states have begun to explore the use of green bonds as a mechanism for financing projects related to renewable energy, energy efficiency, clean transportation, and other climate-related initiatives. This measure encourages the evaluation of a green bonds program in the State.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 110, S.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 2053 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.C.R. No. 103

The purpose of this measure is to request the Governor to convene a temporary working group to investigate the existence and environmental dangers of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances and other related chemicals.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Honolulu Board of Water Supply; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Coalition Earth; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are man-made chemicals that persist in the environment after being introduced and pose serious health risks. Your Committee further finds that mitigating the impacts of PFAS requires testing bodies of water, waterways, fish, and other wildlife to identify possible contamination. This measure encourages a coordinated, inter-agency effort to investigate the existence of PFAS and related substances in the State.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 103, S.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 2054 Transportation on S.C.R. No. 37

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Transportation and Department of Transportation of the County of Maui to collaborate with the Kihei Community Association in the planning and implementation of the Kihei Mauka Road project.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Kihei Community Association; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Kihei Community Association has long served as a vital voice for South Maui residents, advocating for infrastructure improvements to address traffic congestion and flooding. As Kihei continues to grow, these issues increasingly threaten residents' quality of life and public safety. This measure urges collaboration between state and county departments and the Kihei community to prioritize the Kihei Mauka Road project — an essential link in the North-South Collector Road that would improve traffic flow, increase emergency access, and support sustainable development in the region.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing all references of the Department of Transportation of the County of Maui to the Department of Public Works of the County of Maui;
- (2) Changing its title to make technical amendments; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 37, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 37, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

SCRep. 2055 Transportation on S.C.R. No. 184

The purpose of this measure is to request each county police department to increase enforcement against out-of-state vehicles operating on public roadways that have not been properly registered in the appropriate county.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that existing law requires out-of-state vehicles to either register with the appropriate county or obtain a permit that allows out-of-state registration and license plate to remain valid until they expire. Your Committee further finds that the State has a vested interest in ensuring that all vehicles operating on public roadways are properly registered and comply with state and county regulations, including vehicle registration.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 184 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

SCRep. 2056 Transportation on S.C.R. No. 181

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Transportation to establish a working group on lowering the legal limit of blood alcohol concentration to 0.05 grams of alcohol per one hundred milliliters of blood with the intent of prioritizing safety and saving lives on Hawaii's roads.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Governor; Department of Transportation; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hawai'i Alcohol Policy Alliance; and Mothers Against Drunk Driving Hawaii. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that alcohol-impaired driving continues to be a major public safety issue, contributing to thousands of fatalities annually across the United States, including a significant portion of traffic deaths in Hawaii. Studies show that drivers with a blood alcohol concentration between 0.05 and 0.08 percent face greatly increased risk of fatal crashes. This measure supports data-driven recommendations that prioritize saving lives and improving roadway safety for all residents and visitors in the State by looking at reducing the legal limit of blood alcohol concentration to 0.05.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the Director of Transportation to serve as the Chairperson of the working group;
- (2) Adding the chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives committees with primary jurisdiction over transportation to the working group; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 181, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 181, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

SCRep. 2057 Transportation on S.C.R. No. 23

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Transportation and Department of Law Enforcement to study the possibility of a highway patrol and speed cameras along major freeways and highways in primary areas of speeding.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from five individuals.

Your Committee finds that the impact of increased traffic congestion and excessive speeding on the State's roadways pose significant risks to drivers, passengers, bicyclists, and pedestrians. Limited resources among local law enforcement agencies make it challenging to effectively enforce speed limits and address traffic safety concerns. This measure aims to enhance enforcement and reduce speed-related crashes by looking into the possibility of implementing speed cameras on major freeways and highways in the State.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 23 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

SCRep. 2058 Higher Education on S.C.R. No. 50

The purpose of this measure is to urge the University of Hawaii President and Board of Regents to establish a Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at the University of Hawaii Maui College.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; State Health Planning and Development Agency; and Healthcare Association of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that there is an increasing need for healthcare services in Maui County because of the County's growing and aging population. Your Committee further finds that the University of Hawaii Maui College currently offers a Practical Nurse Certificate of Achievement and an Associate in Science in Nursing degree to prepare students for entry-level nursing positions. Students who complete the Associate in Science in Nursing Program have the opportunity to earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree through the University of Hawaii at Manoa. However, your Committee believes that establishing a dedicated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at the University of Hawaii Maui College will give Maui residents the opportunity for an uninterrupted pathway for more advanced nursing knowledge along with greater advancement opportunities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its title to make a technical, nonsubstantive amendment; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 50, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 50, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Amato, Evslin, Woodson, Souza).

SCRep. 2059 Human Services & Homelessness on S.C.R. No. 73

The purpose of this measure is to request the Office of Wellness and Resilience to develop a report to address the developmental needs of children born during the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Wellness and Resilience; Department of Education; Hawai'i Community Foundation; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that children born during the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic have experienced considerable interruptions to their early development due to prolonged isolation, inconsistent caregiving environments, and increased reliance on digital media. These conditions have contributed to notable delays in social skills, emotional regulation, language development, and motor coordination, which can have lasting effects on learning and behavior. This measure requests the Office of Wellness and Resilience to assess the developmental needs of children born from 2018 to 2025 and recommend early intervention strategies. By identifying necessary supports, this measure ensures that these children can overcome early setbacks and thrive socially and academically.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 73, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 9; Ayes with Reservations (Alcos, Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 2060 Transportation on S.C.R. No. 153

The purpose of this measure is to request the County of Maui to fulfill its agreement with the State and resolve longstanding jurisdictional ambiguities by completing the transfer of the Hui Roads, including Hui Road F, from the Judiciary.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary and one individual.

Your Committee finds that prolonged jurisdictional uncertainty over the ownership and maintenance of certain roads, including Hui Road F in West Maui, has led to neglect, unsafe conditions, and confusion among residents. Despite an agreement between the State and County of Maui to transfer jurisdiction of the Hui Roads from the Judiciary to the County, the transfer remains incomplete, delaying much-needed repairs and maintenance. This measure aims to improve public safety, infrastructure reliability, and quality of life for West Maui residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the Director of Transportation of the County of Maui to the Director of Public Works of the County of Maui as a recipient of a certified copy of this measure; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 153, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 153, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

SCRep. 2061 Transportation on S.C.R. No. 38

The purpose of this measure is to urge the County of Maui to prioritize the development and planning of the northern terminus of the Kihei North-South Collector Road.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Kihei Community Association and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that South Maui continues to experience worsening traffic congestion due to a lack of sufficient north-south transportation routes, particularly in the Kihei region. Despite decades-old plans and federal funding allocations, critical segments of the North-South Collector Road, especially its northern terminus, remain incomplete, leaving the region vulnerable to traffic delays, natural hazards, and compromised emergency access. This measure aims to improve mobility and safety, and ensure infrastructure keeps pace with population growth.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 38, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

SCRep. 2062 Transportation on S.C.R. No. 180

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Transportation to share information on the safety and performance of commercial tour operators to help residents and visitors make informed decisions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Blue Hawaiian and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Transportation and Vertical Aviation International. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Jack Harter Helicopters.

Your Committee finds that the State has experienced a troubling number of helicopter tour crashes and safety incidents over the past two decades, resulting in dozens of fatalities and serious injuries. Inconsistent safety practices among commercial air tour operators, including varying levels of pilot training, equipment standards, and maintenance practices, pose ongoing risks to passengers, pilots, and the public. This measure promotes greater transparency and accountability in the helicopter tour industry, thereby reducing avoidable risks and enhancing public confidence in air transportation across the islands.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the type of information the Department of Transportation is being requested to share to help residents and visitors;
- (2) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 180, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 180, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

SCRep. 2063 Transportation on S.C.R. No. 182

The purpose of this measure is to encourage the City and County of Honolulu to initiate a Summer Streets Pilot Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; Hawai'i Bicycling League; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that streets and public spaces can serve multiple purposes beyond vehicle transportation, creating opportunities for recreation, active mobility, and community engagement. Summer streets programs have been successfully implemented worldwide, promoting public participation, supporting local businesses, and advancing environmental sustainability by encouraging alternatives to car-centric transportation. This measure aims to enhance public spaces and promote community well-being through the establishment of a Summer Streets Pilot Program in the City and County of Honolulu.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 182 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

SCRep. 2064 Transportation on S.C.R. No. 200

The purpose of this measure is to request the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization to continue transportation management training programs that focus on educating key decision makers responsible for transportation policy, planning, funding, and implementation.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization and one individual.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii faces high transportation costs per capita and disproportionately high rates of transportation-related fatalities and injuries. These challenges are compounded by fragmented governance across multiple agencies, making cohesive, effective implementation difficult. This measure supports continued training programs by the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization to provide decision makers with peer-to-peer learning and access to best practices from successful jurisdictions, enabling the State to reduce transportation costs, improve safety outcomes, and build a more efficient and equitable multimodal transportation system.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 200, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

SCRep. 2065 Transportation on S.C.R. No. 231

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Transportation to install and utilize electronic scanning equipment at each state airport and harbor to scan for illegal fireworks.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the illegal importation and use of fireworks pose serious risks to public safety, property, and the environment in Hawaii, contributing to fires, injuries, and disturbances. Current enforcement methods have proven inadequate in preventing the entry of these dangerous items, and enhanced screening at state airports and harbors is essential to intercept illegal fireworks. Your Committee believes that the installation of modern electronic scanning equipment at these locations will strengthen enforcement efforts, prevent the distribution of illegal fireworks, and ensure safer communities across the State.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 231, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Cochran, La Chica).

SCRep. 2066 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.C.R. No. 90

The purpose of this measure is to request the Agribusiness Development Corporation to assume responsibility for the routine maintenance and repair of the Kohala Ditch, including developing and implementing a comprehensive plan for the routine maintenance of the Kohala Ditch and submitting a report to the Legislature prior to each Regular Session.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Agribusiness Development Corporation and Hawai'i Farm Bureau. Your Committee received comments from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that the Kohala Ditch, a twenty-six mile long irrigation ditch, has become a vital source of water for farmers and ranchers in North Kohala, but a 2021 rockslide damaged the ditch and stopped the flow of water. Consequentially, most farmers have been compelled to pay for more expensive county water, increasing operating costs and scaling back production.

Your Committee further finds that there has been \$10 million allocated to the Department of Agriculture for the design and repair construction of the Kohala Ditch System which has not been released to the Kohala Ditch Co-Op, Incorporated, the intended grantee. However, the State must provide routine maintenance and repair for Kohala Ditch to resolve the current damage and avoid future water supply disruptions. Your Committee finds that the Agribusiness Development Corporation has statutory mandates to coordinate and administer programs to assist agricultural enterprises. Therefore, the repair and routine maintenance of the Kohala Ditch will further the Agribusiness Development Corporation in fulfilling its statutory mandates. This measure requests that the Agribusiness Development Corporation assume responsibility for the routine maintenance and repair of the Kohala Ditch and submit a report to the Legislature prior to each Regular Session.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 90 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 2067 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.C.R. No. 139

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Request that the Department of Agriculture designate Kunia, Leilehua Plateau, and Poamoho as the Central Oahu Agricultural Corridor;
- (2) Request the Department of Transportation to plan, design, and implement traffic signage;
- (3) Request the Department of Agriculture to establish a prioritization list of potential agricultural infrastructure improvement projects that would provide the most value to the State; and
- (4) Request the Department of Agriculture to submit a report to the Legislature prior to the Regular Session of 2026.

Your Committee has received testimony in support of this measure from the Agribusiness Development Corporation, Larry Jeffs Farms LLC, Hawai'i Farm Bureau, and Kunia Village Title Holding Corporation. Your Committee has received comments from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the department responsible for designation from the Hawaii Department of Agriculture to the Agribusiness Development Corporation; and
- (2) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purpose of clarity and consistency.

Your Committee finds that the farmlands of Kunia and Wahiawa were once major areas of pineapple production in the State. Since the downsizing of Hawaii's pineapple industry, both the State and private landowners have diversified farming on former pineapple plantation lands. Your Committee further finds that significantly increasing diversified farming in Hawaii will require new infrastructure to match the needs of the farmer. Therefore, the State and counties should consider agriculture in long-term planning, and the development of new infrastructure should consider and prioritize efficiency and safety.

This measure requests that the Agribusiness Development Corporation designate Kunia, Leilehua Plateau, and Poamoho as the Central Oahu Agricultural Corridor and identify potential agricultural infrastructure improvement projects that would provide the most value to the State.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 139, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 139, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 2068 Labor on S.C.R. No. 63

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to study the establishment of a Hawaii Workforce Excellence Award Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Your Committee finds that there is often a societal emphasis on college degrees and white-collar careers, overshadowing the value of skilled trades. Your Committee further finds that a Hawaii-based program like the Meilleur Ouvrier de France, a historic competition to recognize and revitalize traditional craftsmanship in France, would elevate the importance and prestige of trades, promote career paths that do not require a traditional four-year degree, and highlight the wide range of opportunities within the skilled labor market. Your Committee believes that the Program would shift public perception of vocational and skilled trades by presenting them as prestigious and valuable career paths and encourage young people to pursue these fields.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 63 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garrett).

SCRep. 2069 Labor on S.C.R. No. 145

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to convene a working group to develop recommendations for establishing and implementing a paid Family and Medical Leave Program in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission; Office of Wellness and Resilience; Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women; Executive Office on Aging; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Honolulu County Committee on the Status of Women; AARP Hawai'i; Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition; Hawai'i State Teachers Association; Parents and Children Together; Hawaii State AFL-CIO; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Pride at Work-Hawai'i; Aloha United Way; Imua Alliance; Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus; American Heart Association; Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; AAUW Hawaii; AlohaCare; Americans for Democratic Action; Wainiha Country Market; Healthy Eating Active Living Coalition; University of Hawaii Professional Assembly; Holomua Collaborative; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and ACLU of Hawai'i.

Your Committee finds that the United States is the only remaining industrialized nation without mandated access to paid family and medical leave benefits for the private sector employees under federal law. Your Committee further finds that Hawaii's working families are not adequately supported during times of caregiving and illness. While the federal Family and Medical Leave Act allows twelve weeks of unpaid leave to employees who have worked at a business that employs fifty or more employees, the majority of Hawaii's workforce cannot afford to take unpaid leave to care for a new child or attend to the needs of a family member with a serious health condition. The working group established under this measure seeks to support all employees in the State by finding methods to successfully institute a state-wide Family Paid Leave Program.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 145, S.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garrett).

SCRep. 2070 Education on S.C.R. No. 117

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Education to collaborate with the Department of Transportation, Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee, and the County of Hawaii to conduct an inventory of bus stops on Hawaii island utilized by children to travel to school and develop strategies to improve safety at each location.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Mayor of the County of Hawai'i; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that many students on Hawaii island face unique transportation challenges that other islands of the State do not face, including long travel distances, limited access to school bus services, and reliance on the County of Hawaii's Hele-On public transportation system through special arrangements with the Department of Education. These challenges are compounded by bus route limitations, road infrastructure deficiencies, and the absence of safe, dedicated school bus stops in certain rural and underserved areas. Your Committee further finds that a comprehensive review of existing bus stops on Hawaii island used by school-aged children is necessary to identify deficiencies and develop recommendations for improvements.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Urging the Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee rather than the Department of Education to conduct an inventory of bus stops on Hawaii island utilized by children to travel to school and develop strategies to improve safety at each location;
- (2) Requesting the County of Hawaii to use funding for its Safe Routes to School program to support the efforts of the Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee in conducting the inventory of bus stops on Hawaii island and developing strategies to improve safety at each location;
- (3) Requesting the Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee, rather than the Department of Education, to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature;
- (4) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and

(5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 117, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Transportation in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 117, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Souza).

SCRep. 2071 Health on S.C.R. No. 8

The purpose of this measure is to request the Auditor to assess the social and financial effects of proposed mandated health insurance coverage for a percentage of costs of intravenous ketamine therapy to treat depression.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the use of ketamine has been shown to be a valid option for the treatment of treatment-resistant depression and that intravenous ketamine therapy is a safer form of treatment with a lower risk of addiction when compared to nasal spray treatment. However, this therapy is often not covered by insurance, making it cost prohibitive for many patients who would greatly benefit from intravenous ketamine therapy. Your Committee further finds that Senate Bill No. 967, Regular Session of 2025 (SB967), proposes requiring all health insurers in the State to cover an unspecified percentage of the cost of intravenous ketamine therapy to treat depression, which would be considered a new mandated health insurance benefit.

Your Committee further finds that, pursuant to sections 23-51 and 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the social and financial impact of a proposed mandated health insurance benefit must be assessed by the Auditor before it can be enacted into law. This measure therefore requests the Auditor to conduct a statutorily required impact assessment report on the social and financial effects of the new mandated health insurance benefit proposed by SB967.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 8, S.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Takenouchi, Garcia).

SCRep. 2072 Health on S.C.R. No. 16

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Health to convene a task force to identify and develop minimum professional standards for community health worker training programs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Ka'u Rural Health Community Association Inc.; National Association of Community Health Workers; Hawai'i Community Health Worker Association; Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Papa Ola Lokahi; AlohaCare; and seven individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that community health workers are trusted members of local communities who provide assistance in navigating complex systems of care and serve as a link between individuals in their home communities and clinical and community-based services. However, there are no uniform professional standards in the State for community health workers. Developing quality assurance and minimum standards for community health workers will ensure the public health and safety of individuals receiving assistance from community health workers and allow community health workers to advance their educational and professional infrastructure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 16, S.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Takenouchi, Garcia).

SCRep. 2073 Health on S.C.R. No. 69

The purpose of this measure is to request the Administrator of the State Health Planning and Development Agency to convene a Pharmacy Benefit Manager Working Group to determine the best policies to reform pharmacy benefit manager practices in the State to ensure transparency and fairness for consumers and in the pharmaceutical sector, lower drug costs for patient consumers, and increase access to health care.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Health Planning and Development Agency; University of Hawai'i at Hilo; Hawai'i Pharmacists Association; Hawaii Medical Association; Walgreen Co.; Work Injury Medical Association of Hawaii; and six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Services and PCMA.

Your Committee finds that rising prescription drug costs are a major concern to Hawaii residents. Your Committee further finds that establishing a working group to identify the best options for lowering consumer drug costs and increasing health care access will enable lawmakers to enact policies that ensure fairness and transparency and ensure the State's residents are able to access needed medications, while also minimizing any unintended consequences to pharmacies and other health care providers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting certain findings relating to pharmacy benefit managers;
- (2) Narrowing the scope of the working group to solely determining the best policies to lower drug costs for patient consumers and increasing access to health care, and removing the request to determine the best policies to reform pharmacy benefit manager practices;
- (3) Amending the composition of the working group;
- (4) Amending the priority areas the working group is requested to evaluate;
- (5) Requesting the working group to refrain from seeking or requesting certain protected information;
- (6) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 69, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 69, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Takenouchi, Garcia).

SCRep. 2074 Health on S.C.R. No. 86

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Health to convene an Aeromedical Services Working Group.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Air Methods; Hawaii Medical Association; The Daniel R. Sayre Memorial Foundation; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that most rural communities must rely on the State's aeromedical system for access to advanced levels of trauma care, including accessing medical specialists and subspecialists in an emergency medical situation, which puts residents in these communities at greater risk of poor health outcomes for serious medical conditions such as heart attacks, strokes, or traumatic bodily injuries. Your Committee further finds that because the State's current aeromedical system is served by a single statewide aeromedical services provider, there are few viable and cost-effective alternatives in the event of a grounding for maintenance or crew availability issues. Identifying and developing recommendations to address the current barriers that are preventing the expansion of the State's aeromedical services system is the first step in ensuring all persons in the State have access to timely medical care in an emergency situation.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the composition of the working group; and
- (2) Amending the recipients of certified copies of this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 86, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 86, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Takenouchi, Garcia).

SCRep. 2075 Health on S.C.R. No. 70

The purpose of this measure is to request the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to establish and convene a Pharmacy Reimbursement Working Group to explore and propose legislation mandating health insurance coverage reimbursement for pharmacy services for the 2026 Legislative Session.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Primary Care Association and Walgreen Co.

Your Committee finds that pharmacists are geographically dispersed throughout the State's communities and can bridge the gaps created by the State's physician shortage by educating patients on how and when to check blood sugar, ways to avoid and manage hypoglycemia, how to take their medications correctly to avoid adverse effects, and various medication utilization techniques. Your Committee further finds that, given the critical role pharmacists play in ensuring access to health care to the State's residents, pharmacists should be appropriately reimbursed for the clinical services they provide within their scope of practice. This measure recognizes the importance of pharmacists to Hawaii's health care system and establishes a working group that will, among other things, propose legislation mandating reimbursement for pharmacy services, which represents the next step in ensuring the State's pharmacists can maximize their clinical services and practice within their full scope of licensure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 70, S.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Takenouchi, Garcia).

SCRep. 2076 Health on S.C.R. No. 118

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Health to convene a working group to assess the feasibility of allowing business owners in the State to utilize filtered water collected by water catchment systems for business activities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Department of Agriculture; Honolulu Board of Water Supply; Department of Water Supply for the County of Hawai'i; and Chamber of Commerce Hawaii. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that there is a growing need to address the fragility of the State's underground aquifers, which take decades to naturally replenish and are susceptible to chemical spills and leaks, droughts, and commercial overuse. Your Committee further finds that although many of Hawaii's residents use rainwater catchment for their primary domestic water sources, existing law limits the use of captured water for personal uses only and prohibits its use in business activities. This measure would examine the feasibility of allowing business owners to use filtered water collected by catchment systems for business activities, which could allow the State to supplement its existing water infrastructure and reduce the strain on the State's aquifers.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 118, S.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.
Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Takenouchi, Garcia).

SCRep. 2077 Health on S.C.R. No. 120

The purpose of this measure is to request the Auditor to assess the social and financial effects of proposed mandatory health insurance coverage for continuous glucose monitors.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hilo Benioff Medical Center Foundation and Hawaii Medical Association.

Your Committee finds that although continuous glucose monitors provide real-time data and trends on blood glucose levels that surpass the limited information available through traditional blood glucose meters, these devices are not covered by all health insurers. Your Committee further finds that House Bill No. 820, Regular Session of 2025 (HB820), proposes requiring all health insurers in the State, including Medicaid managed care plans, to cover continuous glucose monitors, which would be considered a new mandated health insurance benefit.

Your Committee further finds that, pursuant to sections 23-51 and 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the social and financial impact of a proposed mandated health insurance benefit must be assessed by the Auditor before it can be enacted into law. This measure therefore requests the Auditor to conduct statutorily required impact assessment report on the social and financial effects of the new mandated health insurance benefit proposed by HB820.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 120, S.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Takenouchi, Garcia).

SCRep. 2078 Health on S.C.R. No. 194

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Health to encourage reductions in the use of disposable surgical equipment and adoption of sustainable practices in the provision of health care services following examples set by California and Japan.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that hospitals and health care facilities generate significant medical waste that often consists of single-use surgical instruments and supplies, which contributes to landfill overflow and environmental pollution. Your Committee further finds that California and Japan have implemented programs that reduce medical waste through the use of reprocessed and sterilized surgical instruments. This measure encourages the adoption of similar programs and techniques in the State.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 194, S.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Takenouchi, Garcia).

SCRep. 2079 Economic Development & Technology on S.C.R. No. 51

The purpose of this measure is to request the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to convene a working group to evaluate the establishment and administrative placement of an Office of Resilience and Recovery.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Recovery and Resiliency Unit of the Office of the Governor and Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

Your Committee finds that the Hawai'i Climate Advisory Team was established in the aftermath of the Maui wildfires to propose policies that improve the State's ability to respond to disasters. Your Committee further finds that the Advisory Team recommended that a permanent Hawaii Resilience Office be established to provide leadership and coordination to improve the State's preparedness for disasters. Your Committee recognizes that the Advisory Team did not make a recommendation regarding the administrative placement of the Hawaii Resilience Office and believes that this measure will help determine the appropriate placement.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 51 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Matsumoto).

SCRep. 2080 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.C.R. No. 136

The purpose of this measure is to request the Hawaii State Energy Office to convene a Geothermal Energy Working Group to evaluate the regulatory and policy landscape surrounding geothermal energy in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Hawaii State Energy Office; Public Utilities Commission; Ulupono Initiative; Coalition Earth; Sustainable Energy Hawai'i; and three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i. Your Committee received comments on this measure from Go Green Alternative Energy Solutions, LLC; and Gateway for Acceleration in Nuclear (GAIN) Initiative.

Your Committee finds that it is imperative for the State to identify alternatives to fossil fuels in order to reduce energy costs and shift to cleaner energy sources. While your Committee recognizes the importance of evaluating geothermal energy development, your Committee believes that there is also a need to evaluate other energy sources that have not been fully considered by the State in order to identify viable energy sources, rule out non-viable sources, and focus efforts accordingly.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the Hawaii State Energy Office to convene a Nuclear Energy Working Group, rather than a Geothermal Energy Working Group, to study the feasibility of using advanced nuclear power technologies in the State;
- (2) Changing the composition of the working group;
- (3) Changing the working group's focus to studying the feasibility of using advanced nuclear power technologies, evaluating risks and barriers to developing and using advanced nuclear power technologies, and identifying nuclear energy goals;
- (4) Amending the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure; and
- (5) Amending its title and findings in accordance with its amended purpose.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 136, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 136, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4; Ayes with Reservations (Perruso). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 2081 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.C.R. No. 123

The purpose of this measure is to request a working group to study ways to improve rental housing and landlord-tenant issues.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State Judiciary and from Hawaii Realtors. Your Committee received comments from the Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Office of Consumer Protection.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the responsibility of the working group to address the following:
 - (a) Conduct a comprehensive review of the Residential Landlord-Tenant Code to determine if any amendments or updates are necessary;
 - (b) Review existing mechanisms available to landlords and tenants for the enforcement of rights under the Residential Landlord-Tenant Code; and
 - (c) Consider the feasibility of statutory processes through which injunctive relief might be obtained;
- (2) Amend the title to reflect the changes in the working group's responsibilities;
- (3) Technical, non-substantive changes for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 123, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 123, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Ilagan, Ichiyama, Lowen, Pierick).

SCRep. 2082 Water & Land on S.C.R. No. 3

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of a perpetual, non-exclusive easement to the City and County of Honolulu covering a portion of state submerged lands at Maunaloa, Honolulu, Oahu, for the stormwater management outfall and drainage system, and for use, repair, and maintenance of the improvements constructed thereon.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hui Nalu Canoe Club; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that, pursuant to section 171-53(c), Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Board of Land and Natural Resources may lease submerged lands with prior approval of the Governor and the prior authorization of the Legislature by concurrent resolution. Your Committee further finds that on February 9, 2018, under agenda item K-3, the Board of Land and Natural Resources approved the grant of a perpetual, non-exclusive easement for the permanent replacement of the stormwater management outfall and drainage system identified in this measure, at gratis consideration, to the City and County of Honolulu. Your Committee concludes that the easement is necessary for the maintenance and repair of the existing stormwater management outfall drainage system, and for use, repair, and maintenance of the improvements constructed thereon.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 3, S.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ichiyama, Poepoe, Woodson).

SCRep. 2083 Water & Land on S.C.R. No. 4

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of a twenty-five-year term, non-exclusive easement covering a portion of state submerged lands at Kikiaola, Kekaha, Kauai, for a shoreline protection structure, and for use, repair, and maintenance of the improvements constructed thereon.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and one individual.

Your Committee finds that, pursuant to section 171-53(c), Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Board of Land and Natural Resources may lease submerged lands with prior approval of the Governor and the prior authorization of the Legislature by concurrent resolution. Your Committee further finds that on September 22, 2023, under agenda item D-3, the Board of Land and Natural Resources granted a twenty-five-year term, non-exclusive easement for the shoreline protection structure identified in this measure, subject to certain conditions. Your Committee concludes that the easement is necessary for the maintenance and repair of the shoreline protection structure, and for use, repair, and maintenance of the improvements constructed thereon.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 4 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Iwamoto, Souza). Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ichiyama, Poepoe, Woodson).

SCRep. 2084 Water & Land on S.C.R. No. 5

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of a twenty-five-year term, non-exclusive easement covering a portion of state submerged lands at Waikiki, Honolulu, Oahu, for concrete stairs, and for use, repair, and maintenance of the improvements constructed thereon.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and HTH DH Ventures, LLC.

Your Committee finds that, pursuant to section 171-53(c), Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Board of Land and Natural Resources may lease submerged lands with prior approval of the Governor and the prior authorization of the Legislature by concurrent resolution. Your Committee further finds that on October 13, 2023, under agenda item D-14, the Board of Land and Natural Resources granted a twenty-five-year term, non-exclusive easement to resolve the encroachments of the concrete steps identified in this measure, subject to certain conditions. Your Committee concludes that the easement is necessary for the construction of replacement concrete steps, and for use, repair, and maintenance of the improvements constructed thereon.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 5, S.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Iwamoto, Souza). Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ichiyama, Poepoe, Woodson).

SCRep. 2085 Water & Land on S.C.R. No. 6

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of a twenty-five-year term, non-exclusive easement covering a portion of state submerged lands at Ewa Beach, Ewa, Oahu, for a seawall, and for use, repair, and maintenance of the improvements constructed thereon.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that, pursuant to section 171-53(c), Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Board of Land and Natural Resources may lease submerged lands with prior approval of the Governor and the prior authorization of the Legislature by concurrent resolution. Your Committee further finds that on May 24, 2024, under agenda item D-7, the Board of Land and Natural Resources granted a twenty-five-year term, non-exclusive easement to resolve the encroachments of the seawall identified in this measure, subject to certain conditions. Your Committee concludes that the easement is necessary for the maintenance and repair of the seawall, and for use, repair, and maintenance of the improvements constructed thereon.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 6 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Souza). Noes, 1 (Iwamoto). Excused, 3 (Ichiyama, Poepoe, Woodson).

SCRep. 2086 Water & Land on S.C.R. No. 7

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of a twenty-five-year term, non-exclusive easement covering a portion of state submerged lands at Laie, Koolauloa, Oahu, for a rock revetment that includes stairs, and for use, repair, and maintenance of the improvements constructed thereon.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that, pursuant to section 171-53(c), Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Board of Land and Natural Resources may lease submerged lands with prior approval of the Governor and the prior authorization of the Legislature by concurrent resolution. Your Committee further finds that on March 8, 2024, under agenda item D-2, the Board of Land and Natural Resources granted a twenty-five-year term, non-exclusive easement to resolve the encroachments of the rock revetment and stairs identified in this measure, subject to certain conditions. Your Committee concludes that the easement is necessary for the maintenance and repair of the rock revetment and stairs, and for use, repair, and maintenance of the improvements constructed thereon.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 7 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6; Ayes with Reservations (Belatti, Souza). Noes, 1 (Iwamoto). Excused, 3 (Ichiyama, Poepoe, Woodson).

SCRep. 2087 Water & Land on S.C.R. No. 54

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Land and Natural Resources to convene and provide administrative assistance to a Desalination Planning Task Force to determine whether the use of desalination for large-scale water consumption in the State is feasible.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Honolulu Board of Water Supply and CARES Community Advocacy Research Education Services. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that freshwater scarcity is an increasingly growing concern for the State as much of the State's freshwater supply comes from underground aquifers, which take decades to naturally replenish and are susceptible to chemical spills and leaks, droughts, and commercial overuse. Your Committee further finds that although desalination is a promising solution to freshwater scarcity, the process may be too cost-prohibitive and energy-intensive to be feasible. This measure would address the State's need for additional freshwater sources by determining the feasibility of using desalination for large-scale water consumption in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the Task Force to submit a final report no later than twenty days prior to the Regular Session of 2027, rather than twenty days prior to the Regular Session of 2026;
- (2) Dissolving the Task Force on June 30, 2027, rather than June 30, 2026; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 54, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 54, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ichiyama, Poepoe, Woodson).

SCRep. 2088 Water & Land on S.C.R. No. 119

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Land and Natural Resources to convene a Kailua Bay Advisory Working Group.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Kailua Village Business Improvement District; Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Hawai'i Tourism Authority.

Your Committee finds that the Kailua-Kona Wharf, commonly referred to as the Kailua Pier, provides significant economic, cultural, and historical benefits to West Hawai'i. Your Committee further finds that persistent vandalism and destruction of public facilities and infrastructure have led to rising maintenance costs, disruptions of public access, and the need for continuous repairs of Kailua Pier by state and county agencies. The interjurisdictional approach to address the challenges at Kailua Pier proposed by this measure would enhance communication between pier users and government officials, allowing for more effective, coordinated oversight and management of Kailua Pier.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 119, S.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ichiyama, Poepoe, Woodson).

SCRep. 2089 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.C.R. No. 34

The purpose of this measure is to request Hawaii's congressional delegation to petition the United States Department of Agriculture to address the lack of parity between Hawaii and other states and territories pertaining to the export of agricultural goods.

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

Your Committee finds that under title 7 Code of Federal Regulations part 318, the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States Department of Agriculture may prohibit or restrict the movement in interstate commerce of any plant or plant product from Hawaii and the territories, unless specifically allowed, to the continental United States to prevent the introduction of plant pests on the continent. Your Committee further finds that the allowable list is limited and shipments of fruits and vegetables require quarantine treatment, inspection, and authorization by the United States Department of Agriculture, severely limiting the State's exports.

Your Committee further finds that for the State to add more agricultural commodities to the allowable list, a petition must be submitted to the United States Department of Agriculture requesting a pest risk analysis to be conducted. However, there is a long-standing problem that petitions from the State are processed with petitions from foreign countries, which are often deemed a higher priority and expedited. This measure requests that Hawaii's congressional delegation petition the United States Department of Agriculture to address the lack of parity between Hawaii and other states and territories pertaining to the export of agricultural goods.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 34, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 2090 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.C.R. No. 41

The purpose of this measure is to encourage each county to establish its own biosecurity plan that prioritizes the needs of the county and identifies proposals for legislative changes, to encourage collaboration between counties in developing its biosecurity plan, and to encourage each county to share its findings and biosecurity plan in collaboration with the State, including the Department of Agriculture and Hawaii Invasive Species Council.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Hawaii Invasive Species Council, Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species, and the Climate Change & Health Working Group. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that biosecurity is a critical strategy in preventing the introduction and spread of invasive species, which lead to habitat degradation, extinction of native species, and rising costs in agriculture and livestock production. Your Committee further finds that each county faces unique biosecurity challenges, necessitating localized approaches to biosecurity planning and response to enable proactive identification of risks, enhance early detection and rapid response efforts, and improve coordination with state and federal agencies. Additionally, establishing county-level biosecurity plans will allow each county to prioritize its biosecurity needs and develop community-based strategies for invasive species mitigation. This measure encourages each county to establish a localized approach for strengthening its biosecurity plan and to collaborate and share its biosecurity plan and findings with other counties and the State, including the Department of Agriculture and Hawaii Invasive Species Council.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 41, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 2091 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.C.R. No. 56

The purpose of this measure is to urge the United States government to:

- (1) Establish a national biodiversity strategy to ensure the conservation and restoration of the nation's biodiversity, secure ecosystem services for future generations, advance the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, set ambitious biodiversity conservation targets, promote equity and justice in conservation efforts, coordinate federal agency actions, and foster collaboration among governments, Indigenous communities, non-governmental organizations, and international partners;
- (2) Increase public awareness of biodiversity issues and develop the national biodiversity strategy through robust public input, engaging federal and state agencies, Indigenous communities, communities of color, low-income communities, private landowners, and other stakeholders to strengthen biodiversity restoration efforts; and
- (3) Include specific actions in the national biosecurity strategy.

Your Committee has received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Purple Mai'a Foundation, and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the United States is facing an unprecedented biodiversity crisis, threatening approximately one million species with extinction. Furthermore, Hawai'i, home to a significant number of endemic species and habitats with great ecological, cultural, historical, and scientific value, has over five hundred fifty endangered species but receives only three percent of federal conservation funding.

Your Committee further finds that the loss of biodiversity poses a direct threat to the security, health, and well-being of Hawai'i's residents, particularly Native Hawaiians, by diminishing critical ecosystem services and increasing vulnerability to natural disasters. Addressing the biodiversity crisis requires coordinated action at the global, national, regional, and local levels. This measure urges the United States government to establish a national biosecurity strategy and increase public awareness of biodiversity issues.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 56 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 2092 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.C.R. No. 88

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Request the Department of Agriculture to establish and administer a Microbial Algae Soil Products Pilot Program that introduces microbial algae on agricultural lands in the State to address agricultural soil health while improving nutrient cycling, reducing fertilizer dependency, and enhancing overall soil health;
- (2) Request farmers to be eligible for participation in the Microbial Algae Soil Products Pilot Program;
- (3) Establish additional criteria for eligibility to participate in the Microbial Algae Soil Products Pilot Program;
- (4) Request the Department of Agriculture to collaborate with the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resiliency, laboratories at the University of Hawaii engaged in the study of soil sciences, and any other departments, laboratories, or units at the University of Hawaii relevant to the Microbial Algae Soil Products Pilot Program; and
- (5) Request the Department of Agriculture to submit a report on its findings and recommendations prior to the Regular Sessions of 2026 and 2027.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments from the Department of Agriculture and the University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that soil health is a critical element of sustainable crop production, but soil degradation by excessive uses of chemical fertilizers results in the depletion of essential microbiological nutrients. Your Committee further finds that to prevent soil degradation, algae-based fertilizers have been proven to protect soil while replenishing key nutrients. Additionally, emerging research has demonstrated that specific types of microalgae and seaweeds offer promising solutions to improve soil health, which is a sustainable and cost-effective solution for the State's agricultural industry. This measure requests that the Department of Agriculture establish and administer a Microbial Algae Soil Products Pilot Program in collaboration with the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resiliency of the University of Hawaii and other relevant laboratories, departments or units at the University of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 88 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 2093 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.C.R. No. 94

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Urge the Hawaii Department of Agriculture and the Department of Agriculture of the County of Maui to take further meaningful action to address the axis deer overpopulation by implementing policies to make in-state inspectors certified by the United States Department of Agriculture, certified inspections, and certified processing more accessible, capable, and affordable for local hunters to utilize to sell or gift venison, and implementing policies to increase the amount of in-state certified United States Department of Agriculture meat inspectors for game mammals;
- (2) Urge the Hawaii Department of Agriculture and the Department of Agriculture of the County of Maui to convene a joint task force to oversee a County of Maui program that, in coordination with the United States Department of Agriculture certified processing facilities, would aim to investigate and develop plans to make affordable the processing of locally-hunted axis deer meat and the distribution of this venison to the community; and
- (3) Request the joint task force to submit a report of the program's accomplishments and barriers to the accomplishment of the program with its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than November 30, 2025.

Your Committee has received testimony in support of this measure from Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Hawaii Farm Bureau, and five individuals. Your Committee has received comments from the Department of Agriculture.

Your Committee finds that the overpopulation of axis deer on Maui has led to the overgrazing of native plants that would otherwise aid in mitigating erosion, wildfires, and flooding. However, axis deer are a plentiful source of high-quality protein that could benefit the local economy and the citizens of the State. Your Committee further finds that an increase of in-state United States Department of Agriculture-certified meat inspectors would lower the cost of inspections for local hunters, provide a benefit to the agricultural industry in the State, and make locally hunted venison more available and safer for the community to consume. This measure urges the State Department of Agriculture and the County of Maui Department of Agriculture to take further action to address axis deer overpopulation by implementing policies, convening a joint task force to develop an affordable venison processing and distribution program, and requiring the task force to submit a report to the Legislature by November 30, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 94, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 2094 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.C.R. No. 141

The purpose of this measure urges the Department of Agriculture to collaborate with the Agribusiness Development Corporation regarding grant funding opportunities with the United States Department of Agriculture to provide more support for local agricultural organizations or entities and encourage the development of a sustainable agricultural industry in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Agribusiness Development Corporation, Department of Agriculture, and Hawai'i Farm Bureau.

Your Committee finds that the Aloha+ Challenge goal of increasing local food production may require more available land for agricultural projects, and more available labor to support the production and distribution of products. Your Committee further finds that the United States Department of Agriculture provides grant opportunities to improve the development and performance of agricultural organizations and to provide funding and aid to local farmers and ranchers to promote their continued growth and performance. This measure urges the Department of Agriculture and the Agribusiness Development Corporation to collaborate for grant funding opportunities with the United States Department of Agriculture.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 141, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 2095 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.C.R. No. 164

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Agriculture to adopt rules authorizing rodeos on land zones for agricultural use.

Your Committee has received testimony in support of this measure from Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Hawai'i Farm Bureau, and nine individuals. Your Committee has received comments from the Department of Agriculture and Town & Country Rocker G Livestock.

Your Committee finds that the State possesses a rich ranching history and paniolo culture that would be honored by authorizing rodeos on lands zoned for agricultural use. This measure requests the Department of Agriculture to adopt rules authorizing rodeos on lands zoned for agricultural use.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 164, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 2096 Education on S.C.R. No. 53

The purpose of this measure is to request the Legislative Reference Bureau to cooperate with the Hawaii State Public Library System to identify rural and underserved communities with a need for better telecommunication access for residents, including those with developmental disabilities, to participate in the state legislative process.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i State Public Library System and Legislative Reference Bureau.

Your Committee finds that providing access for residents to participate in the state legislative process is a basic right of citizenship in Hawaii and should continue to be a priority. Your Committee further finds that access to the state legislative process is often limited for those living in remote areas or lacking reliable internet connectivity.

Your Committee notes that the Hawaii State Public Library System has long provided free public access to broadband Internet and computer equipment and is therefore well-prepared to serve as a conduit for facilitating remote legislative participation. Your Committee believes that the Hawaii State Public Library System has the infrastructure and resources to support public access to the Internet and videoconferencing, making it uniquely positioned to assist individuals in participating in the legislative process.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the Comptroller, rather than the Legislative Reference Bureau, to cooperate with the Hawaii State Public Library System to identify rural and underserved communities with a need for better telecommunication access for residents, including those with developmental disabilities, to participate in the state legislative process;
- (2) Requesting the Comptroller to also cooperate with the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development and the Hawaii Broadband and Digital Equity Office in identifying rural and underserved communities with a need for better telecommunication access for residents;
- (3) Deleting language that would have requested the Public Access Room to collaborate with the Hawaii State Public Library System to establish an outreach program to notify the public regarding the availability of library infrastructure to support remote public participation in the state legislative process;
- (4) Requesting the Comptroller to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2026;
- (5) Directing certified copies of this measure to the Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development and Strategic Broadband Coordinator of the Hawaii Broadband and Digital Equity Office;
- (6) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 53, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 53, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Souza).

SCRep. 2097 Education on S.C.R. No. 134

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Education to provide a detailed report to the Legislature on the true cost of producing school meals to ensure transparency and avoid unnecessary price increases.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Public Health Institute; Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i Hunger Action Network; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Education.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Education cites the current cost of producing a student lunch at \$9.00. Your Committee further finds that the Department of Education is proposing to increase school meal prices, which would lead to an increase in the price of student lunch from \$2.50 to \$4.75 for grades kindergarten through eight and from \$2.75 to \$5.00 for grades nine through twelve by the 2028-2029 school year. Your Committee believes that an increase in the prices for school meals will negatively impact the State's working families and students who receive free or reduced-price meals and finds it essential that proper reporting processes are in place to provide transparency as to the costs of producing school meals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Education that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 134 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 10. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Souza).

SCRep. 2098 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.C.R. No. 115

The purpose of this measure is to affirm the importance of marine ecosystem restoration to achieve the State's decarbonization goals.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Coalition Earth; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that marine ecosystem restoration can help mitigate some of the impacts of climate change by increasing biodiversity and preserving carbon sinks and other natural resources that help remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Your Committee further finds that maintaining transparent methods for quantifying greenhouse gas emissions is crucial to ensuring the consistency and accuracy of greenhouse gas emissions data. This measure affirms the value that marine ecosystems have in helping the State achieve decarbonization and acknowledges the need to continue efforts to improve carbon accounting methodologies to ensure accurate greenhouse gas emissions data.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying the significance of fresh and brackish water wetlands in capturing and storing carbon; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 115, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 115, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 2099 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.C.R. No. 132

The purpose of this measure is to encourage the adoption of recommendations from the United Nations Global Plastics Treaty and Rapa Nui Summit Declaration to address climate justice and sustainable development.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Greenpeace Hawaii; 350Hawaii.org; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the United Nations Global Plastics Treaty is an agreement to end plastic pollution that creates a common standard for plastic consumption and establishes benchmarks for reduced plastic use. Your Committee further finds that the Rapa Nui Pacific Leaders Summit addressed issues related to plastic pollution in the Pacific Ocean and developed recommendations related to plastic reduction and ocean conservation through the Rapa Nui Summit Declaration. This measure encourages the State to incorporate the recommendations of these agreements in its climate justice and sustainable development efforts.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 132, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 2100 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.C.R. No. 183

The purpose of this measure is to endorse and reaffirm support for the progress achieved by the Aloha+ Challenge through its integrated approach and six ambitious targets to be reached by 2030.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Climate Change and Health Working Group; Hawai‘i Green Growth UN Local2030 Hub; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Aloha+ Challenge is a statewide initiative that commits Hawaii to achieving six sustainability goals by 2030. Your Committee further finds that these goals align with the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and have promoted transparency and accountability in the State's efforts to improve the environment. This measure provides recognition of the value the Aloha+ Challenge has provided the State in encouraging sustainable and environmentally friendly practices.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 183 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 2101 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.C.R. No. 93

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Governor, Mayors of each county, and the State to work toward a just climate future by integrating indigenous knowledge into policy and decision-making processes related to climate adaptation, climate mitigation, and climate resiliency.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawaii Climate Change and Health Working Group; 350Hawaii.org; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i; Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs; Coalition Earth; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that the impacts of climate change and federal-level actions that seek to reverse environmental progress pose a serious threat to the well-being of residents now and for generations to come. Your Committee further finds that Native Hawaiians have developed and refined methods for collective survival and ecological practices that should be considered in the State's response to the climate crisis. This measure encourages the integration of indigenous knowledge in the State's climate-related policies and efforts to mitigate climate change.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 93, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 2102 Water & Land on S.C.R. No. 76

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to consult with the Kahana Bay Steering Committee, County of Maui, Department of Land and Natural Resources, and Army Corps of Engineers regarding a path forward for the proposed Kahana Bay Erosion Mitigation Project.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Association of Apartment Owners of Hololani; Association of Apartment Owners of Sands of Kahana; West Maui Taxpayers Association Inc; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that in an effort to address coastal erosion in Kahana Bay, owners of units in nine condominium projects, through their owners' associations, and one residential parcel on Kahana Bay created and provided funding for the Kahana Bay Steering Committee (Steering Committee) to develop and implement the Kahana Bay Erosion Mitigation Project. Your Committee further finds that although a preliminary Environmental Impact Statement was prepared by a firm retained by the Steering Committee, progress on the Kahana Bay Erosion Mitigation Project has stalled due to a lack of agreement on who would take ownership of proposed rock groins that would be necessary to hold replenished sand in place. This measure seeks to address the ongoing issue of coastal erosion in Kahana Bay by encouraging the relevant stakeholders to collaborate and develop an appropriate path forward.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 76, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Iwamoto). Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ichiyama, Poepoe, Woodson).

SCRep. 2103 Public Safety on H.R. No. 43

The purpose of this measure is to urge the City and County of Honolulu to work with stakeholders to construct an emergency access road on the Wai'anae coast.

The Military Affairs Council, the Hawaii Climate Change Health Working Group, and twelve individuals provided testimony in support of this resolution.

Your committee finds that maintaining emergency access roads that provide more than one way in and out of a developed area is essential to public safety. Considering that Farrington Highway serves currently as the only adequate way in and out of Wai'anae, this committee finds that the City and County of Honolulu needs to work with the Department of Transportation and the military to develop an emergency access road along the Wai'anae Coast to benefit the communities of Wai'anae, Makaha, Mā'ili, and Nanakuli.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 43, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 2 (Iwamoto, Souza). Excused, 2 (Ichiyama, Poepoe).

SCRep. 2104 Labor on S.C.R. No. 163

The purpose of this measure is to request the counties to adopt flexible setback requirements or establish variance procedures for state buildings and facilities to enhance land use efficiency and public service delivery.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services and Grassroots Institute of Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that setback requirements mandate minimum distances between structures and property lines and are established to ensure safety, privacy, and aesthetic standards in urban planning. However, strict adherence to uniform setback requirements can limit the State's ability to develop or renovate public buildings and facilities in a manner that maximizes land use efficiency. Your Committee further finds that other jurisdictions have implemented flexible setback policies or granted variances to accommodate the unique needs of public buildings, thereby promoting greater density and more efficient use of public resources. Your Committee believes that flexibility can lead to improved public service delivery by allowing state facilities to be more appropriately sized and located.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 163, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garrett).

SCRep. 2105 Labor on S.C.R. No. 143

The purpose of this measure is to urge all boards and commissions to conduct annual performance reviews of their executive directors or persons holding equivalent positions exempt from civil service law.

Your Committee did not receive any written testimony on this measure.

Your Committee finds that boards and commissions are established to address specific problems or challenges within the community, encourage citizen participation in the process, and act as state liaisons for the community by recommending systems or programs aimed at providing support and solutions for unique challenges faced by the respective communities. Your Committee believes that conducting annual performance reviews of individuals occupying executive director or similar civil service exempt positions under boards and commissions ensures accountability and encourages these individuals to perform their job duties with great diligence and more regard for their communities.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 143, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garrett).

SCRep. 2106 Labor on S.C.R. No. 55

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Human Resources Development to conduct a comprehensive review of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations' Boiler and Elevator Inspection Branch to increase personnel recruitment and retention.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Waltz Engineering, Inc.; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO; Hawaiian Electric; Otis Elevator Company; National Elevator Industry, Inc.; International Union of Elevator Constructors, Local 126; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations has oversight and conducts inspections of pressure retaining items, such as boilers, pressure vessels, pressure systems, amusement rides, elevators, and kindred equipment, to ensure their safe operation. The inspections conducted by the Department's Boiler and Elevator Inspection Branch are an essential service to ensure public safety. Your Committee further finds that the Branch is severely understaffed, resulting in a backlog of safety inspections of elevators and other equipment. Your Committee believes that a comparative analysis of the operations and staffing of the Department's Boiler and Elevator Inspection Branch and similar regulatory branches in other states may offer valuable insights for resolving the staffing shortage and improving the efficacy of the Branch.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 55 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garrett).

SCRep. 2107 Labor on S.C.R. No. 67

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Human Resources Development and the state agencies comprising the State's public mental health care system to cooperate more closely to determine the necessary actions to expedite the hiring and filling of critical vacancies, including solutions to address the obstacles and challenges unique to the mental health care workforce.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development; State Council on Mental Health; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the quality of the State's public mental health care system has diminished, in part due to hiring practices and policies that make it challenging for state agencies to hire and retain the skilled professionals essential to providing effective mental health care services, affecting a range of critical roles, ultimately undermining the system's ability to meet the needs of the community. Your Committee further finds that departments and agencies that constitute the Continuum of Care in the State are in desperate need of support as high vacancy rates prevent these agencies from meeting the increasing demand for mental health care services. Therefore, your Committee believes that the Department of Human Resources Development and the state agencies comprising the State's public mental health care system should cooperate more closely to determine the necessary actions to expedite the hiring and filling of critical vacancies, including solutions to address the obstacles and challenges unique to the mental health care workforce.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 67, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garrett).

SCRep. 2108 Labor on S.C.R. No. 135

The purpose of this measure is to urge all state departments to partner with the Office of Wellness and Resilience for secure and appropriate data sharing agreements.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Wellness and Resilience.

Your Committee finds that the Office of Wellness and Resilience launched a social determinants of health electronic dashboard that identifies a baseline of needs and concerns that impede high quality-of-life outcomes called the "Quality of Life and Well-Being Dashboard". Your Committee further finds that this dashboard represents the largest survey of health and well-being in the State to date and enables the Office of Wellness and Resilience to examine community needs through a data-driven lens, leading to the development of effective, evidence-based, and trauma-informed strategies. Your Committee also finds that many state datasets remain siloed within individual departments using different data collection methodologies, making it difficult for the Office of Wellness and Resilience to navigate and perform cross-departmental analyses. Therefore, your Committee finds it appropriate to urge all state departments to partner with the Office of Wellness and Resilience for the purpose of secure and appropriate data sharing agreements that protect the privacy and confidentiality of residents to encourage further study of the needs and challenges of the community and the development of effective aid programs and strategies to address those needs and challenges.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 135, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garrett).

SCRep. 2109 Economic Development & Technology on S.C.R. No. 196

The purpose of this measure is to support and encourage a broader relationship between the State and the Kingdom of Norway.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii and Norway share environmental priorities and are at the forefront of renewable energy development. Your Committee further finds that the State could benefit from Norway's expertise in areas such as sustainable urban planning, green energy infrastructure, and criminal justice. This measure seeks to enhance the State's relationship with Norway.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 196, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Matsumoto).

SCRep. 2110 Economic Development & Technology on S.C.R. No. 195

The purpose of this measure is to support and encourage a broader relationship between the State and the Kingdom of Sweden.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Honorary Consulate of Sweden.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii and Sweden share common challenges as geographically distinct regions with unique environmental, economic, and social concerns and have common priorities related to renewable energy, environmental protection, and climate action. Your Committee further finds that Hawaii and Sweden would benefit from enhanced diplomatic ties, economic partnerships, and knowledge exchange in areas related to energy, the environment, education, and public health. This measure encourages a more robust relationship between Hawaii and Sweden.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 195 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Matsumoto).

SCRep. 2111 Economic Development & Technology on S.C.R. No. 30

The purpose of this measure is to request the Commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam to allow the Department of Parks and Recreation of the City and County of Honolulu to temporarily use the restricted vacant land on the Pearl City Peninsula for youth ball programs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Pearl City Neighborhood Board No. 21.

Your Committee finds that the City and County of Honolulu does not have a sufficient number of ball fields to accommodate the demand of youth ball programs. Your Committee further finds that Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam has about twelve acres of vacant land, some of which could be suitable for youth ball fields. This measure encourages the use of this land for youth ball programs.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 30 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Matsumoto).

SCRep. 2112 Economic Development & Technology on S.C.R. No. 40

The purpose of this measure is to request the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation to increase its focus on advanced manufacturing and cybersecurity to allow manufacturers to expand production, lower costs, and create new products.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Military Affairs Council. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committee finds that advanced manufacturing, which refers to the incorporation of various innovative technologies in the manufacturing process, can help Hawaii businesses increase efficiency, improve product quality, and reduce manufacturing costs. Your Committee further finds that given the large military presence in the State, there is an opportunity to collaborate with the United States Department of Defense and other federal agencies on cybersecurity initiatives that help protect local businesses. This measure encourages increased support for local businesses in the areas of advanced manufacturing and cybersecurity.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 40 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Matsumoto).

SCRep. 2113 Economic Development & Technology on S.C.R. No. 178

The purpose of this measure is to urge the East-West Center to expand international engagement around the world and serve as a bridge to help the State share its unique expertise with tropical agriculture, food security, public health, education, clean energy, and sustainable development, where it might be most helpful to other communities around the world.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the East-West Center.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii has unique expertise in the areas of tropical agriculture, food security, public health, education, clean energy, and sustainable development. Your Committee further finds that the East-West Center has a history of fostering cooperation and development among nations in the Asia-Pacific region and is uniquely positioned to serve as a bridge between Hawaii and countries around the world. This measure encourages the sharing of Hawaii's unique expertise in certain areas with communities around the world.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 178, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Matsumoto).

SCRep. 2114 Economic Development & Technology on S.C.R. No. 65

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Stadium Authority to finalize a contract for the construction of the new Aloha Stadium and to continue its efforts in earnest to create the New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services and Aloha Hālawā District Partners. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Stadium Authority.

Your Committee finds that the development of a new stadium facility is crucial for supporting athletic events, concerts, festivals, and other events that will help spur economic growth. Your Committee further finds that the New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District (NASED) Project, overseen by the Stadium Authority, involves the demolition of the existing Aloha Stadium, design and construction of a new facility, and mixed-use development of surrounding areas within the district. This measure encourages the timely development and construction of the new stadium facility and continued progress of the NASED Project.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 65 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Matsumoto).

SCRep. 2115 Economic Development & Technology on S.C.R. No. 24

The purpose of this measure is to strongly urge the United States Department of Defense to maintain all references to the 100th Infantry Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team on its websites to allow the public and future generations to understand the historical importance of these military units.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Military Affairs Council; Nisei Veterans Legacy; 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans; Hawaii J20+; Hawaii Coalition for Civil Rights; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that the 100th Infantry Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team were Japanese-American units renowned for their service during the Second World War. Your Committee further finds that the Pentagon removed information pertaining to these units from the United States Army's official website as a part of the federal purge of content identified as being related to diversity, equity, and inclusion. This measure seeks to protect the legacies of these units and ensure that the public has access to information related to them.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 24, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Holt, Matsumoto).

SCRep. 2116 Culture & Arts on S.C.R. No. 112

The purpose of this measure is to request the City and County of Honolulu to light up City Hall with purple lights on August 7 of each year in honor of National Purple Heart Day.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Purple Heart is one of the most recognized, respected, and oldest military decorations that is awarded to service members of the United States Armed Forces who have been injured or killed in military service to the United States. Your Committee further finds that meritorious acts of extraordinary fidelity service are the foundation of many modern freedoms enjoyed by the people of the United States. Your Committee believes that it is appropriate for the State to specifically honor the sacrifices of service members who have received the Purple Heart.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the request is for August 7, 2025, rather than each year; and
- (2) Changing its title to reflect the specific year.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 112, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 112, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 2117 Culture & Arts on S.C.R. No. 131

The purpose of this measure is to urge the State to acquire the Hawaii Theatre to promote local culture and arts, preserve its historic and cultural significance, and facilitate its continued public use.

Your Committee did not receive any written testimony on this measure.

Your Committee finds that the Hawaii Theatre, located in downtown Honolulu, is a historic landmark that has served as a cultural and performing arts center since opening in 1922. The Theatre has played a significant role in the State's cultural and artistic heritage by hosting performances, concerts, and community events that celebrate the State's diverse history and traditions. Your Committee therefore believes that public ownership of the Hawaii Theatre by the State will ensure the Theatre's long-term preservation, enable necessary renovations and improvements, and expand access to arts and cultural programming for residents and visitors.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 131 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 2118 Culture & Arts on S.C.R. No. 169

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Request the State Archives to expand public outreach, share Hawaii's history that may prove relevant today, create opportunities for public discussion and civic engagement, and evaluate funding opportunities to support its mission; and
- (2) Request the Department of Accounting and General Services to conduct a study on the potential for revenue generation opportunities of a new State Archives facility being developed and long-term source of funding for the operations and programs of the State Archives.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services.

Your Committee finds that the State Archives maintains a vast array of historically significant and irreplaceable records of Hawaii's history, including world-leading innovations and social equality initiatives. Your Committee further finds that the State Archives outgrew its original facility in 1953 and has now exceeded its storage capacity for a second time, resulting in a vault of documentary history inaccessible to researchers and curious learners. Your Committee believes there exists a strong and clear need to provide easy access to Hawaii's history to encourage civic engagement and support the hard work of the state archivists.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 169, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 2119 Culture & Arts on S.C.R. No. 12

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Recognize International Dark Sky Week on April 21 through April 28, 2025; and

- (2) Establish a task force convened by the Board of Land and Natural Resources to study light pollution and dark skies to ensure the preservation of dark skies throughout the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Maunakea Observatories. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and University of Hawai'i System.

Your Committee finds that eighty percent of the world's population, including many Hawaii residents, live under a dome of light pollution, or excessive artificial lighting at night that disrupts natural darkness. Your Committee further finds that artificial light pollution can negatively affect wildlife, including seabirds and turtles, and disrupt astronomy, stargazing, and cultural traditions. Your Committee believes that recognizing International Dark Sky Week in the State will raise awareness for the conservation of dark skies to protect wildlife, preserve cultural heritage, and improve astronomical research and appreciation for dark skies.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the University of Hawaii, rather than the Board of Land and Natural Resources, to convene and chair the Task Force; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 12, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 12, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Lee).

SCRep. 2120 Culture & Arts on S.C.R. No. 197

The purpose of this measure is to recognize:

- (1) June 21, 2025, as Indigenous People's Day;
- (2) July 1, 2025, as Canada Day; and
- (3) September 30, 2025, as Truth and Reconciliation Day,

in acknowledgement of the enduring friendship between the people of Canada and Hawaii, the independent sovereignty and self-determination of the people of Canada, and a commitment to never again allow the sovereign right of a people to self-determination to be taken against their will.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from four individuals.

Your Committee finds that Canada and Hawaii share long histories fraught with challenges and injustice related to colonization and exploitation of indigenous communities whose land and sovereignty were taken against their will. Your Committee recognizes that while the past cannot be changed, Canada and Hawaii still share a commitment to advance the rights, preserve the culture, empower new generations, and work toward justice for indigenous and native peoples. Your Committee believes that this measure reaffirms the enduring friendship between the people of Canada and Hawaii by acknowledging three Canadian holidays.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language to highlight the enduring friendship between Canada and Hawaii and the commonalities they share;
- (2) Requesting the Governor to raise the Canadian flag in a ceremony of recognition; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Culture & Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 197, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 197, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

SCRep. 2121 Agriculture & Food Systems on S.C.R. No. 192

The purpose of this measure is to request the University of Hawaii System to establish a Veterinary Medicine Expansion Working Group to explore the feasibility of developing a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program and submit a report to Legislature prior to the Regular Session of 2026.

Your Committee has received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaiian Humane Society, Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council, and two individuals. Your Committee has received comments from the University of Hawai'i System. Your Committee has received testimony in opposition of this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State faces a critical shortage of veterinarians, especially in rural areas and for large animal and agricultural veterinary services. Moreover, the State's lack of a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program forces aspiring veterinarians to seek education on the United States mainland or internationally, which can increase financial burdens and reduce the likelihood that a newly licensed veterinarian will return to Hawaii to practice.

Your Committee further finds that establishing a Doctor Veterinary Medicine program in Hawaii could include collaborations between the University of Hawaii System, private veterinary practices, and nationally accredited bodies to ensure academic excellence and program sustainability. This measure requests the University of Hawaii System to establish a Veterinary Medicine Expansion Working Group to conduct a feasibility study to explore the feasibility of developing a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program and report to the Legislature prior to the Regular Session of 2026.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture & Food Systems that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 192, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 2122 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.C.R. No. 184

The purpose of this measure is that each county police department is requested to increase enforcement against out-of-state vehicles operating on public roadways that have not been properly registered in the appropriate county.

Your Committee received testimony with comments for this measure from two individuals.

Your Committee finds that vehicles that avoid Hawaii registration fees shift the cost of road maintenance to law-abiding residents. Unregistered vehicles might not meet Hawaii's inspection or insurance standards. Your Committee believes that this measure will accomplish the goals of encouraging stronger enforcement of vehicle registration laws.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 184 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Hashem, Garcia).

SCRep. 2123 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.C.R. No. 204

The purpose of this measure is that the Department of Law Enforcement is requested to provide information related to the disposal, detonation, and destruction of explosives, fireworks, and similar hazardous materials in the State. The Department of Law enforcement is also requested to provide a detailed description of the procedures and methods used for the safe disposal, detonation, and destruction of explosives, fireworks, and similar hazardous materials, an explanation of the permitting process for conducting the disposal, detonation, and destruction of hazardous materials, and a summary of the safety protocols, environmental safeguards, and best practices employed by the Department of Law Enforcement to ensure that the disposal, detonation, and destruction of hazardous materials do not cause harm to the environment, Department of Law Enforcement staff conducting the operation, and individuals and communities in the vicinity of the hazardous materials as they are being transported and destroyed.

Your Committee received testimony in support for this measure from two individuals.

Your Committee finds that additional information related to the disposal, detonation, and destruction of explosives, fireworks, and similar hazardous materials will provide transparency and accountability related to safety, environmental, and public health concerns. This measure requests the Department of Law Enforcement to provide comprehensive information on current practices, locations, and protocols to ensure public awareness, improve safety standards, and support informed decision-making.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 204 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Hashem, Garcia).

SCRep. 2124 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs on S.C.R. No. 128

The purpose of this measure is to request the Attorney General of Hawaii to take several actions related to state lands currently leased to the United States government or federal agencies. This measure asks the Attorney General to produce a list of leased lands, and examine legal impediments.

Your Committee received testimony in support for this measure from the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i and from two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition from the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that lands under the jurisdiction of the State of Hawai'i and currently leased to the United States government or federal agencies represent significant public trust resources. The long-term use of these lands by Federal entities raises important questions regarding compliance with State laws, transparency of lease terms, and potential environmental and cultural impacts resulting from federal activities. Your Committee further finds that there is a lack of accessible and comprehensive information about the scope, duration, and conditions of these leases, which impedes informed decision-making and public accountability.

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 concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 128, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8; Ayes with Reservations (Shimizu). Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Cochran, Hashem, Garcia).

SCRep. 2125 Human Services & Homelessness on S.C.R. No. 22

The purpose of this measure is to request the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to collaborate with relevant agencies to develop initiatives and outreach programs to inform kupuna about emergency preparedness.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Family Caregiver Coalition; AARP Hawai'i; Be Ready Manoa; Kaneohe/Kahaluu Community Emergency Response Team; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's unique vulnerability to natural disasters requires thorough preparedness strategies that reflect the needs of its diverse population. Kupuna, who represent an increasingly large segment of Hawaii residents, face heightened risks during emergencies due to factors such as reduced mobility, chronic health conditions, and barriers to accessing timely alerts and information. Enhancing the emergency readiness of older adults not only protects their health and safety but also alleviates pressure on emergency responders. Therefore, this measure requests the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to collaborate with relevant stakeholders in developing outreach and public education campaigns that empower seniors to better manage disaster scenarios.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services & Homelessness that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 22 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 8. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Takayama).

SCRep. 2126 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.C.R. No. 57

The purpose of this measure is to support the establishment of a National Reinsurance Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawaii and from two individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 57, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7. Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ichiyama, Kong, Tam).

SCRep. 2127 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.C.R. No. 198

The purpose of this measure is to support reduced insurance costs through subrogation claims.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Center for Climate Integrity, Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawaii, Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition and Climate Protectors Hawaii, 350Hawaii, Kauai Climate Action Coalition, and from 34 individuals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 198, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 7; Ayes with Reservations (Pierick). Noes, none. Excused, 3 (Ichiyama, Kong, Tam).

SCRep. 2128 Housing on S.C.R. No. 60

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to develop a plan to produce sufficient housing to meet the State's demand.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Community Advocacy Research Education Services and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's severe housing shortage is driving residents away and making it increasingly difficult for local families across a broad range of incomes to remain in the State. Despite rising demand, housing production has lagged, especially for ownership units and rentals for moderate- and higher-income households, while existing efforts have focused too narrowly on a limited income segment. This measure aims to help retain the State's workforce, stabilize housing costs, and ensure that Hawaii remains livable for its residents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language relating to the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation overbuilding certain rental units;
- (2) Updating figures related to the 2019 Hawaii Housing Planning Study's housing demand projections;
- (3) Inserting language relating to the establishment of an Affordable Housing Land Inventory Task Force through Senate Bill No. 26, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, (Regular Session of 2025);
- (4) Clarifying information that the Corporation is requested to include in the plan; and
- (5) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 60, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 60, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, 3 (Cochran, Kitagawa, La Chica).

SCRep. 2129 Finance on S.C.R. No. 138

The purpose of this measure is to request the Auditor to conduct a management and performance audit of the Office of the Vice President for Academic Strategy of the University of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 138, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kitagawa).

SCRep. 2130 Finance on S.C.R. No. 16

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Health to convene a task force to identify and develop minimum professional standards for community health worker training programs.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 16, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kitagawa).

SCRep. 2131 Finance on S.C.R. No. 118

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Health to convene a working group to assess the feasibility of allowing business owners in the State to utilize filtered water collected by water catchment systems for business activities.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 118, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kitagawa).

SCRep. 2132 Finance on S.C.R. No. 37

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Transportation and Department of Public Works of the County of Maui to collaborate with the Kihei Community Association in the planning and implementation of the Kihei Mauka Road project.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 37, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kitagawa).

SCRep. 2133 Finance on S.C.R. No. 54

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Land and Natural Resources to convene and provide administrative assistance to a Desalination Planning Task Force to determine whether the use of desalination for large-scale water consumption in the State is feasible.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 54, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kitagawa).

SCRep. 2134 Finance on S.C.R. No. 4

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of a twenty-five-year term, non-exclusive easement covering a portion of state submerged lands at Kikiaola, Kekaha, Kauai, for a shoreline protection structure, and for use, repair, and maintenance of the improvements constructed thereon.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 4, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 4, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kitagawa).

SCRep. 2135 Finance on S.C.R. No. 5

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of a twenty-five-year term, non-exclusive easement covering a portion of state submerged lands at Waikiki, Honolulu, Oahu, for concrete stairs, and for use, repair, and maintenance of the improvements constructed thereon.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 5, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 5, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kitagawa).

SCRep. 2136 Finance on S.C.R. No. 3

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of a perpetual, non-exclusive easement to the city and county of Honolulu covering a portion of State submerged lands at Maunaloa, Honolulu, Oahu, for the stormwater management outfall and drainage system, and for use, repair, and maintenance of the improvements constructed thereon.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 3, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kitagawa).

SCRep. 2137 Finance on S.C.R. No. 7

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of a twenty-five year term, non-exclusive easement covering a portion of State submerged lands at Laie, Koolauloa, Oahu, for a rock revetment that includes stairs, and for use, repair and maintenance of the improvements constructed thereon.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 7 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kitagawa).

SCRep. 2138 Finance on S.C.R. No. 6

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of a twenty-five-year term, non-exclusive easement covering a portion of State submerged lands at Ewa Beach, Ewa, Oahu, for a seawall, and for use, repair, and maintenance of the improvements constructed thereon.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 6 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 14. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kitagawa).

SCRep. 2139 Consumer Protection & Commerce on S.C.R. No. 136

The purpose of this measure is to request that a working group convene to study the feasibility of advanced nuclear power in Hawaii as a source of renewable energy.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission, Sustainable Energy Hawaii, Go Green Alternative Energy Solutions, LLC., Nuclear Energy Institute, and from one individual.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawaii, Maui Peace Action, Malu 'Aina Center for Non-violent Education & Action, 350Hawaii, Energy Justice Network, Greenpeace Hawaii, Hawaii Chapter of Americans for Democratic Action, Kauai Women's Caucus, Kulia I Ka Nu'u Outreach and Aloha Lokahi Association, and from 42 individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii State Energy Office and from one individual.

Your Committee has amended this measure as follows:

- (1) At line 27 on Page 3 a request that an interim report of the working group's findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, be submitted to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2026.
- (2) Technical, nonsubstantive changes for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 136, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 136, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 1 (Iwamoto). Excused, 3 (Ichiyama, Kong, Tam).

SCRep. 2140 Transportation on S.C.R. No. 32

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to collaborate with the Department of Transportation to use inmate work furlough programs for state roadway and highway maintenance.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that providing the Department of Transportation with additional workforce through the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation's inmate workforce furlough programs is a reliable and available means to improving the State's roadways and highways while providing inmates access to beneficial work that would assist their reentry into society upon release from incarceration.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 32 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Cochran, Kitagawa, La Chica, Muraoka).

SCRep. 2141 Transportation on S.C.R. No. 117

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee to collaborate with the Department of Education, Department of Transportation, and the County of Hawaii to conduct an inventory of bus stops on Hawaii island utilized by children to travel to school and develop strategies to improve safety at each location.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; Department of Education; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that unlike other islands in the State, many students on Hawaii island face unique transportation challenges, including long travel distances, limited access to school bus services, and reliance on the County of Hawaii's Hele-On public transportation system through special arrangements with the Department of Education.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 117, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Cochran, Kitagawa, La Chica, Muraoka).

SCRep. 2142 Energy & Environmental Protection on S.C.R. No. 194

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Health to encourage reductions in the use of disposable surgical equipment and adoption of sustainable practices in the provision of health care services following examples set by California and Japan.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition.

Your Committee finds that health care facilities in the State generate significant waste through single-use surgical instruments and supplies, contributing to the overflow of landfills and pollution. Your Committee further finds that certain surgical instruments could be reprocessed and sterilized or recycled, reducing waste and supporting the State's environmental and sustainability goals. This measure encourages sustainable practices for the use and disposal of surgical equipment, modeled after practices adopted by California and Japan.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 194, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

SCRep. 2143 Public Safety on S.C.R. No. 20

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to comprehensively reevaluate its policies regarding in-person contact visitation at correctional facilities throughout the state to best support incarcerated persons in staying connected with loved ones who can help them on their journey of rehabilitation.

The Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation supports the intent of the resolution and provided testimony. The Hawai'i 'Ohana Support Network, Blueprint for Change, and Keiki O Ka' Aina Family Learning Center submitted testimony in strong support. Twelve individuals provided testimony in support.

Your committee finds that maintaining strong familial and community connections is a vital component of rehabilitation and successful reentry for incarcerated persons. Your committee also finds that the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation has agreed to the request, per the Department's testimony, to review and reevaluate its policies regarding in-person, contact visitations statewide.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 20 and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 4 (Hashem, Ichiyama, Lamosao, Souza).

SCRep. 2144 Economic Development & Technology on S.C.R. No. 58

The purpose of this measure is to urge the counties of the State to install a minimum set of accessible recreational playground equipment in each playground located in a county park and to establish comprehensive maintenance plans that ensure the long-term safety, cleanliness, and functionality of each playground.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Disability and Communication Access Board; State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Hawaii Self-Advocacy Advisory Council; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that the State is committed to enhancing the inclusion of youth with physical, developmental, and intellectual disabilities in social activities and community involvement. Your Committee further finds that playgrounds throughout the State should have accessible equipment to ensure that all youth, regardless of any disability, have the opportunity to participate in recreational and social activities. This measure urges the counties to ensure that playground equipment at county parks is inclusive of children with disabilities and are maintained over the long term.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 58, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Matsumoto).

SCRep. 2145 Economic Development & Technology on S.C.R. No. 31

The purpose of this measure is to endorse Taiwan's international participation, support the signing of a United States-Taiwan bilateral trade agreement, and commemorate the relationships and exchanges between the State of Hawaii and Taiwan.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Agriculture; Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Honolulu; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the United States and Taiwan have a strong relationship rooted in a shared commitment to democracy, freedom, human rights, and free market economics. Your Committee further finds that Hawaii and Taiwan have enjoyed a sister-state relationship since 1993 and engaged in a number of economic and cultural partnerships and exchanges during that time. This measure encourages Taiwan's increased participation in international organizations, supports continued economic collaboration between the United States and Taiwan, and recognizes the long-standing relationship between Hawaii and Taiwan.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 31, S.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Matsumoto).

SCRep. 2146 Economic Development & Technology on S.C.R. No. 121

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to convene a Tourism and Gaming Working Group.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Aloha Hālawā District Partners; Iron Workers Stabilization Fund; Boyd Gaming; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; HI Good Neighbor; Project Nehemiah Hawaii; Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights; Nation of Hawaii; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the 'Aiea Community Association; Ali'i Pauahi Hawaiian Civic Club; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that legalizing gaming activities could help the State generate a new source of tax revenue and spur economic growth. Your Committee further finds that the process for legalizing and regulating gaming activities should be informed by a comprehensive policy framework and be subject to stakeholder participation. This measure encourages a coordinated effort to evaluate legislation related to gaming and examine how gaming activities could help support the State's tourism and economic development efforts.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the working group to research gaming experiences and programs of legalized gambling in other states;
- (2) Clarifying that the working group is requested to consider gaming legislation that has been considered by other states in addition to the Hawaii State Legislature;
- (3) Requesting the working group to examine the potential for gaming activities onboard vessels operated within the exclusive economic zone;
- (4) Clarifying that the comprehensive tourism gaming policy framework should address certain costs associated with gaming;
- (5) Changing the composition of the working group;
- (6) Amending the list of recipients of certified copies of this measure; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes the concerns raised in the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu's testimony regarding the potential dangers of online gambling platforms.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 121, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 121, S.D. 1, H.D. 1.

Signed by the Chair on behalf of the Committee.

Ayes, 6; Ayes with Reservations (Templo). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Matsumoto).

Conf. Com. Rep. 1 on S.B. No. 1296

The purpose of this measure is to facilitate recovery efforts on Maui and other disaster-affected areas by exempting the reconstruction of any lawfully constructed structure destroyed in a disaster proclaimed by the Governor to constitute a state of emergency or a disaster declared pursuant to federal law from the requirements of a special management area minor permit or a special management area use permit under certain conditions.

Your Committee on Conference finds that it is critical to facilitate disaster recovery while preserving natural resources in coastal zones that are essential to the State's long-term resilience and economic stability. Your Committee on Conference further finds that regulatory agencies are often overwhelmed following a natural disaster. This measure will ease the regulatory burden on these agencies and expedite recovery by exempting the reconstruction of lawfully constructed structures damaged or destroyed in declared disasters from certain permitting requirements.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language requiring that the reconstruction of a lawfully constructed structure damaged or destroyed in a natural disaster shall not be situated on a shoreline parcel or a parcel that is impacted by waves, storm surges, high tide, or shoreline;
- (2) Specifying that the reconstruction shall commence within six years;
- (3) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (4) Inserting a sunset date of July 1, 2028.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1296, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1296, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Hashem, Belatti, Tarnas and Souza.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Inouye, Rhoads, Elefante, McKelvey and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 2 on S.B. No. 1318

The purpose of this measure is to repeal duplicative and potentially confusing penalties for water pollution offenses in section 200-14, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and thereby clarify that enforcement of criminal water pollution offenses remains under the jurisdiction of the Department of Health, rather than the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee on Conference finds that existing law provides for potentially conflicting penalties for water pollution offenses. Under some circumstances, the wording of water pollution offenses administered by both the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Department of Health may overlap, potentially limiting criminal sentencing for these offenses to the lower penalties imposed pursuant to section 200-14(c), Hawaii Revised Statutes. This measure eliminates duplicative and confusing water pollution offenses from the Department of Land and Natural Resources' criminal enforcement jurisdiction and clarifies the Department of Health's jurisdiction to enforce these offenses with much more stringent criminal penalties.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1318, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1318, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Lowen, Hashem, Takenouchi, Perruso and Shimizu.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Inouye, Hashimoto, Rhoads, Chang, Elefante and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 3 on H.B. No. 1051

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish energy-efficiency portfolio standards to achieve 6,000 gigawatt hours of electricity use reductions statewide by 2045;
- (2) Require the Public Utilities Commission to establish additional interim goals and standards for electricity use reduction to be achieved by 2035 and 2040; and
- (3) Authorize the Public Utilities Commission to adjust the 2030 and 2045 standards and interim standards.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to upon approval; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1051, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1051, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Lowen, Matayoshi, Kapela, Perruso and Pierick.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

Senators Wakai, Keohokalole and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 4 on S.B. No. 15

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend the definition of "historic property" to require that the property is over fifty years old and meets the criteria for inclusion in the Hawaii Register of Historic Places; and
- (2) Exclude proposed projects on existing residential property and proposed projects on existing residential property and proposed projects that are in nominally sensitive areas from the State's Historic Preservation Program review, under certain circumstances.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the existing definition of "historic property" is overly broad, requiring the State Historic Preservation Division to evaluate historic and cultural resources and the effects that proposed projects may have on these resources solely based on the age of the historic or cultural resource. The existing definition does not consider whether a historic or cultural resource maintains sufficient integrity and significance to be identified as a historic or cultural resource. This measure narrows the definition of "historic property" to streamline the historic preservation review process.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by making it effective upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 15, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 15, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Hashem, Tarnas, Lamosao and Shimizu.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Lamosao).

Senators Inouye, Gabbard, McKelvey and DeCorte.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 5 on S.B. No. 1377

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Veterans Cemeteries Board within the Office of Veterans' Services of the Department of Defense to provide veterans cemeteries in the State with guidance, education, technical assistance, and other support to ensure compliance with standards set by the National Cemetery Administration of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Your Committee on Conference finds that it is necessary to establish a Veterans Cemeteries Board in the State to support the counties in maintaining veterans cemeteries to the proper standards and to appropriately commemorate veterans' service and sacrifices.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by making it effective upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1377, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1377, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Belatti, Lamosao, Iwamoto, Morikawa and Shimizu.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Elefante, Hashimoto, Wakai and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 6 on S.B. No. 1413

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) to sell, donate or otherwise dispose of property abandoned or seized in federal public housing projects;
- (2) Require the HPHA to notify the known owner of the abandoned or seized property; and
- (3) Establish procedures for persons entitled to the abandoned or seized property.

Your Committee on Conference finds that federal public housing projects managed by the HPHA do not have the on-site storage facilities needed to store abandoned or seized property. This has resulted in administrative burdens for HPHA staff, creating situations where the responsibility for the disposition of the property is unclear and delaying the ability to quickly offer otherwise available units to new residents, further adding to the State's housing shortage. This measure establishes clear procedures for the handling of abandoned or seized property similar to the procedures already in place for other public housing projects to promote transparency, clarify the rights of property owners, improve operational efficiencies, and shorten the average unit vacancy period.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1413, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1413, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Evslin, Poeppoe, La Chica, Miyake and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, 1 (Muraoka). Excused, none.

Senators Chang, Rhoads, Hashimoto and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 7 on H.B. No. 1098

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Specify that intentionally or knowingly causing bodily injury to a protective services worker who is engaged in the performance of the worker's duties is a class C felony; and
- (2) Clarify that a protective services worker is a public servant for the purposes of the offense of terroristic threatening in the first degree.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by changing its effective date to upon approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1098, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1098, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Marten, Tarnas, Amato, Olds and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Hashimoto, Chang and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 8 on H.B. No. 1093

The purpose of this measure is to clarify the Hawaii Public Housing Authority's powers relating to housing projects.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by changing its effective date to upon approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1093, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1093, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Evslin, Poeppoe and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

Senators Chang, Gabbard, Hashimoto and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 9 on H.B. No. 874

The purpose of this measure is to provide some protection of a child performer's earnings by:

- (1) Establishing for a minor in theatrical employment with a gross income of at least \$5,000 on a project or \$20,000 in a calendar year the requirement for:
 - (A) A parent or legal guardian of the minor to establish a trust account for the minor with an independent third-party trustee; and
 - (B) The employer of the minor to deposit a portion of the minor's earnings into the trust account until the minor becomes an adult; and
- (2) Making misappropriation or fraudulent use of funds within the trust account a breach of fiduciary duty subject to penalties.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to upon approval; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 874, H.D. 3, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 874, H.D. 3, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Marten, Sayama, Matayoshi, Chun, Lee, M. and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Matayoshi, Chun).

Senators Aquino, Rhoads, Keohokalole and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Keohokalole).

Conf. Com. Rep. 10 on S.B. No. 1452

The purpose of this measure is to update chapter 329, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to make it consistent with amendments in the Federal Controlled Substances Act as required under section 329-11, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Your Committee on Conference finds that it is critical to public safety, effective law enforcement, and proper compliance with state law that the State's controlled substances schedules are consistent with the current federal regulations. Your Committee on Conference further finds that this measure will help prevent confusion among law enforcement agencies, healthcare providers, and the public regarding the status of different controlled substances.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by changing its effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1452, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1452, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Poepoe and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Elefante, Gabbard, Fukunaga and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (DeCorte).

Conf. Com. Rep. 11 on S.B. No. 176

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow for ballots designated by the county clerks for inclusion to be included in the initial tabulation for purposes of initial recounts;
- (2) Prohibit ballots that the county clerks initially determine are deficient or need additional time to be corrected or verified from being included in the initial tabulation; and
- (3) Increase the minimum threshold required to trigger an automatic recount.

Your Committee on Conference finds that under existing law, the required vote difference to cause an automatic recount by the State or county is the lower of two benchmarks, which are either less than one hundred votes between the top two candidates or less than one-quarter of one percent of the total number of votes cast in that race. Your Committee on Conference further finds that most states that require automatic recounts use the standard margin of vote difference that is double that required by existing law: one-half of one percent of the total number of votes in that race. This measure will align the State's minimum requirements to trigger an automatic recount with the minimum threshold set by the majority of other states that require automatic recounts.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by making it effective upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 176, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 176, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Poepoe and Shimizu.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Rhoads, Chang and Gabbard.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Chang).

Conf. Com. Rep. 12 on S.B. No. 88

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the payment of allowances for TRICARE, TRICARE Dental Program, and vision coverage to all officers, warrant officers, and enlisted personnel of the Hawaii National Guard ordered to active duty for more than thirty days.

Your Committee on Conference finds that some Hawaii National Guard service members ordered to active duty are required to take an indefinite leave of absence from their civilian jobs and consequently lose healthcare coverage provided by their civilian employers. Your Committee on Conference further finds that authorizing the payment of certain healthcare coverage for Hawaii National Guard Members is an appropriate way to support service members and their families and to ensure continuous Hawaii National Guard response force capacity in the State.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by making it effective upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 88, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 88, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Belatti, Lamosao, Iwamoto, Morikawa and Souza.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Elefante, Kanuha, Fukunaga, Wakai and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fukunaga).

Conf. Com. Rep. 13 on S.B. No. 222

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Extend the sunset date of the Illegal Fireworks Task Force from June 30, 2025, to June 30, 2030;
- (2) Require additional reports to the Legislature; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for the Illegal Fireworks Task Force.

Your Committee on Conference finds that it is necessary to provide additional time to the Illegal Fireworks Task Force established pursuant to Act 67, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, to continue the effective work of the Task Force and enhance public safety. Your Committee on Conference further finds that the extended timeline of the Task Force necessitates additional reporting to the Legislature.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing language appropriating funds;
- (2) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 222, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 222, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Kitagawa and Shimizu.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Elefante, Kanuha, Wakai, Fukunaga and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 14 on S.B. No. 601

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require law enforcement to post notice that a warranted or warrantless search has been conducted on a property;
- (2) Require a law enforcement officer to secure any entrance used by an officer in the search;
- (3) Require law enforcement agencies to develop a policy for securing the entrances to a house, store, or other building designated as a place to be searched after a search is completed; and
- (4) Allow the breaking of any doors, gates, other bars to the entrance, closets, and other closed places during a search when reasonable and other means of entering the space are not reasonable.

Your Committee on Conference finds that both the United States Constitution and the Hawaii State Constitution afford individuals the right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures. Your Committee on Conference further finds that public safety and the reasonableness standard for searches conducted by law enforcement in the State are upheld by requiring officers executing searches to follow certain appropriate procedures regarding the posting of notices, securing of entrances, and breaking of property to access private spaces.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by making it effective upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 601, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 601, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Perruso and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garcia).

Senators Wakai, Rhoads, Elefante, Fukunaga and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 15 on S.B. No. 1030

The purpose of this measure is to specify that the practice of election fraud intimidation includes carrying any unconcealed dangerous instrument, which includes firearms, at or within two hundred feet of a voter service center, place of deposit, or polling place.

Your Committee on Conference finds that due to increased occurrences of gun violence, it is necessary as a matter of public safety to clarify the existing state law on elections fraud and voter intimidation by expressly prohibiting the carrying of any firearm or weapon at or near voting centers and other locations where election ballots are submitted in the State.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding language clarifying that the practice of intimidation includes, among other actions, the unconcealed carry of a firearm; and
- (2) Making it effective upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1030, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1030, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Poepoe and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 2. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, none.

Senators Elefante, Rhoads and Wakai.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 16 on S.B. No. 326

The purpose of this measure is to ensure that state revolving funds meet the self-sustainability requirement.

Specifically, this measure requires the Legislature, when establishing or reviewing a revolving fund, to ensure that the revolving fund demonstrates the capacity to be financially self-sustainable by either:

- (1) Annual projections that show that the revolving fund will be sustainable without appropriations from the general fund; or
- (2) A schedule of projected collections of outstanding payments to the revolving fund.

Your Committee on Conference finds that section 37-52.4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, sets forth the requirements for state revolving funds, one of which is self-sustainability. Your Committee on Conference further finds that specifying the methods by which a fund demonstrates a capacity for self-sustainability will facilitate compliance with the statutory requirements for a revolving fund and will promote fiscal responsibility.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by changing its effective date to upon the measure's approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 326, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 326, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Yamashita, Takenouchi and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Hashimoto, Kim and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 17 on S.B. No. 1464

The purpose of this measure is to conform the state income tax law and estate and generation-skipping transfer tax law to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended as of December 31, 2024.

Your Committee on Conference finds that this annual conformity measure ensures that the state income tax and state estate and generation-skipping transfer tax laws conform to the federal Internal Revenue Code as it existed on December 31, 2024. The purpose of conformity is to update these state tax laws with the changes made to the federal Internal Revenue Code during the past year and to adopt those changes that are appropriate for Hawaii law.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by changing the effective date to upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1464, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1464, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Yamashita, Takenouchi and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Moriwaki, Wakai and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 18 on H.B. No. 692

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Expand the Preschool Open Doors Program's eligibility criteria; and
- (2) Repeal the requirement that Preschool Open Doors Program providers be accredited.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by changing the effective date to January 1, 2026.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 692, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 692, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Marten, Morikawa, Olds and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators San Buenaventura, Moriwaki and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 19 on H.B. No. 1099

The purpose of this measure is to make an emergency appropriation for fiscal year 2024-2025 to the Department of Human Services to support the necessary modifications to the ongoing development of a new eligibility system that will assist in reducing the State's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program payment error rate penalty.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the amount and percentage of exceedance of the appropriation over the general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025; and
- (2) Changing its effective date to upon approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1099, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1099, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Marten, Morikawa, Amato, Olds and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Amato).

Senators San Buenaventura, Kanuha and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 20 on S.B. No. 31

The purpose of this measure is to authorize a person who discovers a recorded discriminatory restrictive covenant to take certain actions, without liability, to invalidate the covenant.

Your Committee on Conference finds that discriminatory restrictive covenants violate the rights and protections of certain protected classes and may hinder equitable access to housing. While unenforceable, discriminatory restrictive covenants remain in real estate records, embodying a history of discriminatory practices that do not align with the State's commitment to equality. This measure establishes a process for property owners to identify and invalidate these unlawful restrictions without liability, promoting fair housing practices.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 31, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 31, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Evslin, Poepoe, Grandinetti and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Chang, Keohokalole, Rhoads and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 21 on H.B. No. 984

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Update the Agricultural Loan Program by lowering and fixing interest rates, increasing and standardizing loan limits, and reducing the required number of credit denials;
- (2) Establish a program for a secured line of credit and create a new loan initiative to encourage larger scale agriculture for import replacement and crops grown for farm-to-state programs;
- (3) Include food hubs as an eligible entity for Class E loans; and
- (4) Appropriate funds into and out of the Agricultural Loan Revolving Fund to meet the anticipated increase in loan demand and to accommodate the increased loan limits.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting loan limits for Class A, B, C, E, F, G, and K loans;
- (2) Inserting a line of credit limit for Class J loans;
- (3) Deleting language that would have appropriated funds into and out of the Agricultural Loan Revolving Fund to meet the anticipated increase in loan demand and to accommodate the increased loan limits;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 984, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 984, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kahaloa, Kusch, Perruso, Quinlan and Matsumoto.

Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

Senators Gabbard, Aquino, Richards and Awa.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 22 on S.B. No. 79

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to determine the effect of any proposed state or county housing projects that may affect a historical property, an aviation artifact, or a burial site within ninety days of a request for determination;
- (2) Establish historic review requirements based on the project area's known historic, cultural, and archaeological resources; and
- (3) Establish procedures and notification requirements if previously unidentified human remains or previously unidentified historic property are discovered.

Your Committee on Conference finds that there is a shortage of affordable housing in the State. Your Committee on Conference further finds that the State Historic Preservation Division has a lengthy backlog of historic preservation reviews, delaying the development of affordable housing. This measure streamlines the historic preservation review process to expedite the development of affordable housing projects.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by making it effective upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 79, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 79, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Evslin, Hashem, Tamas, Miyake and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

Senators Inouye, Chang, Richards, Gabbard, Elefante and DeCorte.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 23 on S.B. No. 292

The purpose of this measure is to establish safe harbor protections for survivors of sexual exploitation who seek medical or law enforcement assistance.

Your Committee on Conference finds that often, victims of sexual exploitation may be afraid to seek assistance or cooperate with law enforcement due to the trauma they have experienced or the fear of being prosecuted for offenses they may have committed. This measure establishes safe harbor protections for survivors to allow victims of sexual trauma to access professional help without the fear of facing prosecution from law enforcement.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 292, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 292, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Marten, Poepoe, Amato, Kapela and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Rhoads, San Buenaventura and Awa.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 24 on S.B. No. 385

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require condominium associations to provide electronic copies of their governing documents, as amended or restated, to unit owners or their authorized agents, upon request, at no cost; and
- (2) Repeal the authority of condominium associations to charge a fee for administrative costs associated with the handling of a request for association documents.

Your Committee on Conference finds that existing laws regulating condominiums are based upon principles of self-governance, owner enforcement, alternative dispute resolution, and limited government intervention. Your Committee on Conference further finds that condominium unit owners' access to condominium associations' governing documents is essential for condominium unit owners to effectively govern themselves and enforce the covenants, conditions, and restrictions of their associations. Existing law, however, authorizes condominium associations to charge a fee to provide a copy of governing documents to unit owners, which can create barriers for owners. Providing copies electronically is a reasonable solution to promote transparency and accessibility.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by making it effective upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 385, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 385, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Matayoshi, Chun, Iwamoto and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Iwamoto).

Senators Keohokalole, McKelvey and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 25 on S.B. No. 1602

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Keauhou Aquifer System Monitoring Pilot Project;
- (2) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to determine whether to continue, expand, or end the Pilot Project;
- (3) Appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the Pilot Project; and
- (4) Require reports to the Legislature.

Your Committee on Conference finds that increased water demand and potential resource overuse threaten the Keauhou aquifer system, a vital water source that sustains local communities, ecosystems, and cultural practices. This measure will establish the Keauhou Aquifer System Monitoring Pilot Project to protect and regulate groundwater use within the Keauhou aquifer system.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$200,000 for the Keauhou Aquifer System Monitoring Pilot Project;
- (2) Deleting language that would have appropriated funds for the installation of two monitoring wells in the Keauhou aquifer system;
- (3) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (4) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1602, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1602, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Lowen, Hashem, Takenouchi, Kapela and Souza.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Inouye, Kanuha, Chang, Elefante and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 26 on S.B. No. 1170

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the director of a county planning department to issue a special management area use permit to redevelop permanent affordable multi-family rental housing that has been substantially destroyed as a result of certain natural disasters, with certain exceptions;
- (2) Authorize county planning departments and any other applicable state or county department or agency to amend or modify final plans and specifications for redevelopment of an existing experimental and demonstration housing project, with certain restrictions;
- (3) Require county planning departments and any other applicable state or county department or agency to prioritize approving permits for the redevelopment of permanent affordable multi-family rental housing in special management areas, under certain circumstances; and
- (4) Exempt permanently affordable multi-family rental housing projects within a special management area that are being redeveloped and are located on properties or districts on the state or national historic register from environmental impact statement requirements.

Your Committee on Conference finds that following the 2023 Maui wildfires, the rapid redevelopment of affordable multi-family rental housing destroyed by natural disasters is necessary to ensure that displaced residents can return to their communities and rebuild their lives. Your Committee on Conference further finds that special management area use permits may require more than one year to process, delaying redevelopment and driving up housing costs. This measure will expedite the redevelopment of permanent affordable housing by streamlining the process for certain permits.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1170, S.D. 2, H.D. 3, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1170, S.D. 2, H.D. 3, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Hashem, Evslin, Tarnas and Shimizu.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Tarnas).

Senators Chang, Inouye, Rhoads, Hashimoto, Kanuha and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Rhoads).

Conf. Com. Rep. 27 on S.B. No. 281

The purpose of this measure is to establish the offense of torture as a class A felony in the State.

Your Committee on Conference finds that existing law does not clearly define torture, even though it should be explicitly prohibited. Your Committee on Conference believes that it is essential to distinguish between abuse and torture because they differ in severity, and the penalties should reflect that distinction. This measure will establish charges that accurately reflect the severity of these acts and ensure that offenders are held accountable for the magnitude of their crimes.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Establishing a defense to the offense of torture where the conduct consists of depriving the minor or vulnerable person of necessary food, water, or clothing if the deprivation was caused solely by poverty, destitution, or lack of financial means; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 281, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 281, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Marten, Tarnas, Olds and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Rhoads, Gabbard and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 28 on S.B. No. 332

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit sellers of mortgaged properties in a power of sale foreclosure from bundling properties at a public sale and require each mortgaged property to be auctioned separately; and
- (2) Specify that the sale of a foreclosed property is not final until the earliest of either fifteen days after the public sale, unless an eligible bidder submits a subsequent bid or written notice of intent to submit a subsequent bid, or forty-five days after the public sale.

Your Committee on Conference finds that natural disasters and other economic crises can often lead to foreclosures, resulting in the loss of owner-occupied homes to investors, which can cause prolonged vacancies, property neglect, and the erosion of local communities. Your Committee on Conference further finds that it is crucial to ensure foreclosed homes remain accessible to tenants, families, and community organizations, thereby protecting housing opportunities for local residents and preventing the further shortage of affordable housing stock in the State. This measure seeks to prevent the displacement of local families, preserve owner-occupied housing, and ensure that local homes remain in service to local residents.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 332, S.D. 1, H.D. 3, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 332, S.D. 1, H.D. 3, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Evslin, Chun, Poepoe, Grandinetti and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Fukunaga, Chang, McKelvey, Richards and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 29 on S.B. No. 1373

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and certain licensing boards to automatically revoke and deny the issuance, renewal, restoration, or reinstatement of a professional license, registration, certification, or permit to a person who is a registered sex offender;
- (2) Establish conditions for the disciplinary action; and
- (3) Ensure consumer protection by requiring any final order of discipline taken to be public record.

Your Committee on Conference finds that existing law does not facilitate the timely revocation or denial of a renewal, restoration, or reinstatement of a license for certain professions when the licensee is convicted of an offense requiring registration as a sex offender. Given the nature of these licensed professions, many of which involve close physical contact with members of the public, any delayed action in revoking a license to prevent further practice by a registered sex offender places consumers at unnecessary risk. This measure enables the flexibility needed to take a more expeditious approach against registered sex offenders who are in certain professions that involve close physical contact with consumers and require a professional license to operate.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Reverting back to the S.D. 2 version of this measure, which authorizes, rather than requires, the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and certain licensing boards to automatically revoke and refuse to renew, restore, or reinstate the professional licenses of registered sex offenders;
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and

(3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1373, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1373, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Chun, Perruso and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Fukunaga, San Buenaventura and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 30 on H.B. No. 1291

The purpose of this measure is to expand the offense of false labeling of Hawaii-grown coffee to include roasted coffee.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

(1) Inserting language that imposes a mandatory minimum fine of \$7,500 for each separate offense of false labeling of Hawaii-grown coffee;

(2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and

(3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1291, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1291, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kahaloa, Matayoshi, Poepoe, Kusch and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Richards, Gabbard, Keohokalole, McKelvey and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 31 on H.B. No. 345

The purpose of this measure is to designate the ‘ōpae ‘ula as the state shrimp to support efforts to protect anchialine pool ecosystems throughout Hawaii.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by changing its effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 345, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 345, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kapela, Poepoe, Lee, M. and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

Senators Lee, C., Gabbard, Kanuha and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 32 on H.B. No. 957

The purpose of this measure is to designate the first Friday in May of each year as Laulau Day.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 957, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 957, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kapela, Poepoe and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Lee, C., Elefante and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 33 on H.B. No. 320

The purpose of this measure is to:

(1) Allow qualified adults, including adults with a disability, mentally ill adults, and adults sixty-five years of age or older, to enter into supported decision-making agreements with one or more members of a supportive community; and

- (2) Specify the terms of a supported decision-making agreement, including access to personal information, agreement requirements, and circumstances for termination.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to upon approval; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 320, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 320, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Marten, Poepoe, Chun, Olds and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

Senators Hashimoto, Chang and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 34 on H.B. No. 703

The purpose of this measure is to extend the sunset date for the State Rent Supplement Program for Kupuna to June 30, 2028.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by changing its effective date to upon approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 703, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 703, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Marten, Morikawa, Chun, Templo and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Chun).

Senators Chang, Hashimoto, Moriwaki and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 35 on H.B. No. 359

The purpose of this measure is to update the State's covered offender registration laws to:

- (1) Include offenders who commit the offense of:
 - (A) Sexual assault in the fourth degree by exposing the offender's genitals to another person under circumstances in which the offender's conduct is likely to alarm the other person or put the other person in fear of bodily injury;
 - (B) Sexual assault in the fourth degree against a minor who is at least sixteen years old while the offender is acting in a professional capacity;
 - (C) Incest;
 - (D) Sexual assault of an animal; or
 - (E) Use a computer in the commission of a separate crime, wherein the separate crime is a covered offense subject to covered offender registration laws;
- (2) Require public disclosure for covered offenses that are committed against minors, regardless of whether the conviction was for a first-time misdemeanor offense;
- (3) Require a person who is required to report every year under the covered offender registration requirements to report during the thirty-day period following the offender's birthday, rather than date of birth; and
- (4) Specify how certain covered offenses are to be tiered for purposes of seeking termination of registration requirements.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Excluding certain criminal conduct under the definition of "sexual offense" if the perpetrator is under the age of twenty-five at the time of the offense;
- (2) Changing its effective date to upon approval; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 359, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 359, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Marten, Poepoe, Olds, Templo and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

Senators San Buenaventura, Rhoads and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 36 on S.B. No. 140

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit the importation of firewood into the State from another state and the intrastate transportation or sale of firewood unless the firewood is heat-treated and labeled or the importation, transportation, or sale is authorized by the Department of Agriculture; and
- (2) Require persons who import firewood into the State to maintain, and make available on request, records of imports for at least two years.

Your Committee on Conference finds that invasive species and pathogens harbored in or on imported firewood pose a serious threat to Hawaii's agricultural economy and fragile ecosystems. Your Committee on Conference notes that the State currently lacks regulations requiring the treatment of imported firewood. This measure will help prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species by requiring imported firewood to be properly treated and labeled before it enters the State.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Applying the heat-treatment requirements only to imported firewood, rather than firewood imported into the State from another state or transported or sold within the State;
- (2) Clarifying that importation of firewood into the State shall be prohibited unless the firewood is certified as heat-treated and labeled accordingly or the importation is authorized and permitted by the Department of Agriculture before importation;
- (3) Clarifying imported firewood labeling requirements;
- (4) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose;
- (5) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 140, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 140, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kahaloa, Matayoshi, Kusch and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

Senators Gabbard, Keohokalole, Richards and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 37 on S.B. No. 330

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Department of Agriculture to enforce federal quarantines.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the State's growing citrus industry is progressively threatened by invasive pests and pathogens. Your Committee on Conference recognizes that preventing the introduction of invasive species is more cost-effective than attempting to control them after they have been established. Your Committee on Conference further finds that the Department of Agriculture does not have the legal authority to enforce federal quarantines on shipments that originated from infested areas and that existing state regulations restricting the importation of certain citrus species are not sufficient to address current threats to local citrus crops. Thus, by authorizing the Department of Agriculture to enforce federal pest and disease quarantines, this measure helps to close a critical gap in the biosecurity of the State and protect local food production and supply.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by making it effective upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 330, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 330, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kahaloa, Ilagan, Poepoe, Todd and Matsumoto.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Gabbard, Rhoads, Richards and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 38 on S.B. No. 1263

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend the procedures and required information for the Department of Land and Natural Resources historic preservation review of proposed state projects, privately owned historic property, and other proposed projects that require entitlement for use; and
- (2) Establish procedures for the review of transit-oriented development identified by the counties and Hawaii Community Development Authority, or Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the State's chronic housing shortage necessitates the expeditious development of housing projects to address existing demand, particularly in transit-oriented areas to promote access to transportation. Your Committee on Conference further finds that it is critically important to preserve the State's unique history, character, and identity and to mitigate disturbances to historic places, iwi kupuna, and archaeological artifacts. Therefore, this measure streamlines existing historic and cultural preservation procedures while also including safeguards to enable and empower agencies to expedite housing development.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Moving the definition of "complete submittal" from section 6E-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to section 6E-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to make it applicable to the entire chapter of 6E, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (2) Clarifying that the Hawaii Community Development Authority and the counties shall submit, rather than provide, to the Department of Land and Natural Resources specific parcels and rights-of-way;
- (3) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1263, S.D. 2, H.D. 3, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1263, S.D. 2, H.D. 3, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Evslin, Lamosao, Tarnas and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Lamosao).

Senators Chang, Rhoads and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 39 on S.B. No. 119

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to establish a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program at the University of Hawaii Maui College.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the State is experiencing a severe nursing workforce shortage which has resulted in poorer patient outcomes, particularly in rural areas of the State. This measure appropriates funds to establish a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program at the University of Hawaii Maui College which will create a more efficient pathway for nursing students, reduce the nursing workforce shortage, and allow Maui nursing students to remain on Maui during their entire course of study.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Consolidating sections 2, 3, and 4 and inserting appropriation amounts of \$250,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$350,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 to:
 - (A) Establish a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program at the University of Hawaii Maui College;
 - (B) Fund additional personnel associated with the establishment of the program; and
 - (C) Purchase related supplies and equipment;
- (2) Deleting language that would have appropriated funds to meet the increased demand for prerequisite courses by students newly enrolled in the program;
- (3) Deleting language that would have appropriated funds for simulation and laboratory upgrades associated with the establishment of the program;
- (4) Deleting language what would have appropriated funds for instructional costs associated with providing a third year of nursing courses following the establishment of the program;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (6) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 119, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 119, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Garrett, Holt, Amato, Miyake and Souza.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Kim, Hashimoto and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 40 on H.B. No. 3

The purpose of this measure is to extend:

- (1) The deadline for the University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program to submit the North Shore Beach Management Plan to the Governor and Legislature to December 1, 2026; and
- (2) The appropriation lapse date for the University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program to develop the North Shore Beach Management Plan to June 30, 2026.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to June 30, 2025; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 3, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 3, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Garrett, Hashem, Lamosao and Shimizu.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Kim, Hashimoto and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 41 on H.B. No. 420

The purpose of this measure is to amend the procedures and limitations for resolving disputes regarding construction defects. Specifically, this measure:

- (1) With respect to the statute of limitation and repose for actions for damages based on construction defects:
 - (A) Clarifies that the statute applies to actions based in contract, tort, statute, or otherwise;
 - (B) Repeals the two-year limitation on actions;
 - (C) Specifies that the statute shall not be construed to extend any shorter period of limitation in any other limitations statute; and
 - (D) Clarifies when improvements are deemed substantially complete; and
- (2) With respect to the procedures under the Contractor Repair Act:
 - (A) Clarifies the required contents of a notice of claim of a construction defect served on a contractor and specifies that certain evidence may need to be provided with the notice of claim;
 - (B) Clarifies a claimant's obligations when a contractor proposes to inspect the premises of the alleged construction defect;
 - (C) Specifies the timeframe for when inspections and testing must be completed;
 - (D) Clarifies the procedures for accepting an offer to repair;
 - (E) Specifies mediation requirements; and
 - (F) Clarifies the exception to the statute of limitations under the Contractor Repair Act.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 420, H.D. 3, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 420, H.D. 3, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Evslin, Matayoshi, Tarnas, Miyake and Pierick.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Keohokalole, Rhoads, Fukunaga, Richards and Awa.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 42 on H.B. No. 529

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to secure revenue bonds as a line of credit or other instrument of indebtedness for the Bond Volume Cap Recycling Program.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation may utilize revenue bonds when obtaining a line of credit or other instrument of indebtedness;
- (2) Inserting a bond cap amount of \$300,000,000 for fiscal biennium 2025-2027; and
- (3) Changing the effective date to upon approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 529, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 529, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Evslin, Miyake and Pierick.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

Senators Chang, Hashimoto, Kanuha and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 43 on H.B. No. 70

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Specify that condominium association budget summaries must contain all required information without referring the reader to other portions of the budget; and

- (2) Clarify a condominium unit owner's capacity to enforce compliance with the budget summary and replacement reserves requirements and provide that the condominium association has the burden to prove substantial compliance with those requirements.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language providing that the condominium association has the burden to prove substantial compliance with budget summary and replacement reserves requirements;
- (2) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 70, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 70, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Matayoshi, Todd, Iwamoto and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Keohokalole, Rhoads, Fukunaga, McKelvey and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 44 on H.B. No. 544

The purpose of this measure is to establish a regulatory framework for pet insurance based on the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' Pet Insurance Model Act.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to January 1, 2026; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 544, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 544, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Matayoshi, Chun and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Keohokalole, Rhoads, Fukunaga, Richards and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 45 on H.B. No. 300

PART I. OVERVIEW

As introduced, the administration's budget for operating and capital improvement costs totaled:

Operating

	<u>FY 2025-2026</u>	<u>FY 2026-2027</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	10,471,559,898	10,541,723,984
ALL MEANS OF FINANCE	20,546,640,464	20,459,458,677

Capital Improvements

	<u>FY 2025-2026</u>	<u>FY 2026-2027</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	0	0
GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS	1,327,344,000	601,195,000
ALL MEANS OF FINANCE	3,433,004,000	2,470,581,000

The Governor, on February 18, 2025, March 21, 2025, and March 28, 2025, notified the Legislature of requested adjustments to the executive budget. The administration's revised budget for operating and capital improvement costs totaled:

Operating

	<u>FY 2025-2026</u>	<u>FY 2026-2027</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	10,541,517,110	10,575,312,707
ALL MEANS OF FINANCE	20,639,057,579	20,505,987,636

Capital Improvements

	<u>FY 2025-2026</u>	<u>FY 2026-2027</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	0	0
GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS	1,373,444,000	627,640,000
ALL MEANS OF FINANCE	3,486,804,000	2,478,281,000

The Governor's biennium budget, as stated in the Governor's State of the State address on January 21, 2025, focused on:

- (1) Easing the cost-of-living burden;

- (2) Affordable housing;
- (3) Homelessness;
- (4) Maui recovery;
- (5) Healthcare;
- (6) Public safety; and
- (7) Climate and the environment.

PART II. GENERAL FUND REVENUES AND ECONOMY

The Council on Revenues, in its January 2025 meeting, increased the projected revenue growth for fiscal year 2025 from 3.5% to 6.4% while at the same time decreasing the projection for fiscal year 2026 from 2.2% to -1.5%.

In its March 2025 meeting, the Council decreased the forecast for fiscal year 2025 from 6.4% to 5.0% while also lowering its forecast for fiscal year 2026 from -1.5% to -2.25%.

The Council commented that the fiscal year 2025 decrease in its March 2025 meeting was in part due to "higher than expected individual and corporate tax refunds that were not accounted for in the January 2025 forecast", while the decrease for fiscal year 2026 in the same meeting was due to "the heightened economic uncertainty caused by policy changes at the Federal level."

The table below reflects the most recent estimate of general fund tax revenues for fiscal years 2025 through 2031 as reported by the Council on Revenues in its March 2025 general fund forecast.

General Fund Tax Revenues		
Fiscal Year	Amount (in Thousands of Dollars)	Growth from previous year
2025	\$10,046,729	5.0%
2026	\$9,820,678	-2.25%
2027	\$10,105,506	2.9%
2028	\$10,358,144	2.5%
2029	\$10,627,456	2.6%
2030	\$10,829,378	1.9%
2031	\$11,165,089	3.1%

PART III. COMMITTEE'S PRIORITIES

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure to include:

- (1) Approved executive requests for trade-offs, transfers, changes to means of financing, conversions of positions from temporary to permanent, ceiling increases or decreases, and reductions; and
- (2) Additional funding for critical government services.

Specifically, this budget measure, as amended, appropriates:

Operating

	<u>FY 2025-2026</u>	<u>FY 2026-2027</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	10,593,637,391	10,637,871,235
ALL MEANS OF FINANCE	19,940,654,149	19,763,497,669

Capital Improvements

	<u>FY 2025-2026</u>	<u>FY 2026-2027</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	0	0
GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS	1,428,063,000	423,022,000
ALL MEANS OF FINANCE	3,379,551,000	2,331,259,000

The measure includes the following major departmental adjustments of the executive budget operating costs for fiscal biennium 2025-2027:

Department of Accounting & General Services:

- Adds \$3,200,000 for Kamehameha III temporary school;
- Adds \$7,350,000 and 1 position for streaming of all State and Local Boards and Commission meetings;
- Adds \$5,530,000 for Microsoft 365 G5 licenses;
- Adds \$10,000,000 for Hawaii Information Portal CherryRoad Enterprise;
- Adds \$3,200,000 for Cybersecurity Risk Mitigation;
- Adds \$2,000,000 for Independent Verification and Validation;
- Adds \$3,773,000 and 4 positions for Data/AI Office and AI Risk Management Tools and Geospatial License Renewal;
- Adds \$2,255,500 and 2 positions for establishing the Cemetery Management Office to manage State-owned cemeteries;
- Adds \$2,495,000 and 2 positions for Electronic Filing System Upgrade;
- Adds \$4,103,275 for Voting System Contract, Digital Voter Information Guide and Electronic Registration Information Center;
- Adds \$10,000,000 to expand 911 services to new and emerging technologies;
- Adds \$3,306,644 and 6 positions to provide system support for Enterprise Financial System Project;
- Adds \$1,601,280 and 10 positions to establish the Business Transformation Office; and

- Adds \$150,000 for business plan for revenue generation development.

Department of Agriculture:

- Adds \$26,649,462 and 44 positions for Biosecurity;
- Adds \$556,000 for Vehicle Replacement; and
- Adds \$2,000,000 to supplement the revolving fund for Irrigation Systems.

Department of the Attorney General:

- Adds \$590,952 and 4 positions for the Sex Offender Registry Program;
- Adds \$4,000,000 for Litigation Expenses;
- Adds \$885,938 and 3 positions for the Charities Division;
- Adds \$458,298 and 2 positions for the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit;
- Adds \$468,308 and 2 positions for the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission; and
- Adds \$6,200,000 for Child Support Enforcement Services.

Department of Budget & Finance:

- Adds \$547,920 and 3 positions for Financial Administration;
- Adds \$465,084 and 5 positions for the Office of Federal Awards Management;
- Adds \$1,576,100 and 1 position for the Employees' Retirement System;
- Adds \$431,157 and 1 position for the Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund; and
- Adds \$3,307,382 to increase salaries for the Office of the Deputy Public Defender.

Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism:

- Adds \$2,900,000 for the Healthcare Workforce Development Program;
- Adds \$1,730,000 for the Made in Hawaii Workforce Development Program;
- Adds \$1,977,020 for the Hawaii Convention Center R&M Projects;
- Adds \$1,300,000 for the Military and Community Relations Office;
- Adds \$2,000,000 for the Manufacturing Assistance Program;
- Adds \$2,000,000 for the Hawaii Small Business Innovation Research Program Phase II & III;
- Adds \$2,000,000 for the Accelerator Grant Program;
- Adds \$334,200 for computer software;
- Adds \$169,080 and 1 position for Agribusiness Development and Research; and
- Adds \$4,116,236 for contracting the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience to support local commodity growth.

Department of Commerce & Consumer Affairs:

- Adds \$12,000,000 for the King Kalakaua Building; and
- Adds \$50,000 for the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.

Department of Defense:

- Adds \$858,000 for Computer Hardware Refresh;
- Adds \$230,000 for upgrades to the Distributed Antenna System; and
- Adds \$4,466,126 for the Youth Challenge Academy.

Department of Education:

- Adds \$150,000,000 for deferred maintenance;
- Adds \$4,002,384 and 13 positions for the Kaiapuni Program;
- Adds \$11,781,786 for Athletics, including increases for travel, increases in coaching salaries, increases in athletic training supplies, flag football, equity, and adding an athletic trainer at Kūlanihākoʻi High School;
- Adds \$2,200,000 for English Learner Standards;
- Adds \$41,980,000 for Summer Programs;
- Adds \$7,550,000 for Workforce Readiness;
- Adds \$999,600 in both years for Advanced Placement Exams;
- Adds \$20,000,000 for Skilled Nursing services;
- Adds \$3,400,000 for Mental Health & Social-Emotional Wellbeing;
- Adds \$3,579,360 and 20 mental health interventionist positions;
- Adds \$927,248 and 6 positions for mathematics and financial literacy curriculum initiatives and for instructional support for classroom teachers;
- Adds \$30,000,000 for electricity costs;
- Adds \$6,500,000 for increases in various contract costs;

- Adds \$3,000,000 for soil contamination mitigation efforts;
- Adds \$13,000,000 for increased nighttime security at schools and school security enhancements;
- Adds \$8,000,000 for the Ho‘ākea program; and
- Adds \$1,395,472 and 4 positions for the McKinley Community School for Adults.

Department of Education – Libraries:

- Adds \$2,400,000 for Security Services contracts;
- Adds \$868,000 for temporary library locations for Wahiawa, Pearl City & Makawao libraries;
- Adds \$1,000,000 for increases for repair and maintenance costs; and
- Adds \$750,000 for an automated material handling system.

Department of Education – Executive Office on Early Learning:

- Adds \$13,264,299 and 108 positions for public pre-kindergarten expansion.

Department of Hawaiian Home Lands:

- Adds \$836,400 and 3 positions for the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program; and
- Adds \$2,400,324 for personal services.

Department of Health:

- Adds \$248,257,800 for Hawaii Health Systems Corporations (HHSC) – Regions;
- Adds \$18,000,000 for Maui Health System;
- Adds \$22,000,000 for Hawaii Health Systems Corporations Oahu Region (Leahi and Maluhia);
- Adds \$3,719,675 and 21 positions for Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic certification for Oahu, Maui, Hawaii, and Kauai Community Mental Health Centers;
- Adds \$5,426,000 for adult inpatient psychiatric services at HHSC hospitals on Hawaii Island and Kauai;
- Adds \$26,000,000 for Locum Tenens Contracts for the Hawaii State Hospital;
- Adds \$16,600,000 for overtime and other payroll costs for the Hawaii State Hospital;
- Adds \$5,500,000 for psychiatric beds for the Hawaii State Hospital;
- Adds \$27,000,000 for Medicaid 1915(c) Home and Community Based Services Waiver for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities;
- Adds \$6,000,000 for family planning and preventative health services;
- Adds \$1,201,169 and 2 positions to reestablish the State Oral Health Program;
- Adds \$2,000,000 for Medical Provider Education and Implementation Research for medical cannabis use and Public Education Campaigns;
- Adds \$1,345,876 and 7 positions for inspections of food establishments;
- Adds \$7,664,414 for 9-1-1 emergency ground ambulance and 9-1-1 emergency aeromedical ambulance service for the County of Maui;
- Adds \$3,500,000 for ambulance services for North Kona;
- Adds \$3,200,000 for a second medic station and ambulance on Molokai; and
- Adds \$30,000,000 for the Healthcare Education Loan Repayment Program.

Department of Human Resources Development:

- Adds \$12,006,375 for workers' compensation claims;
- Adds \$1,750,000 for a classification and compensation study to update Executive Branch civil service classes;
- Adds \$1,162,642 for payroll adjustments and redescribed positions; and
- Adds \$60,000 for employee training and professional development.

Department of Human Services:

- Adds \$500,000 for the State Rent Supplement Program;
- Adds \$500,000 for the Federal Section Eight Program;
- Adds \$3,100,000 for the Family Assessment Center in Waianae and Puna;
- Adds \$7,500,000 for the Housing First Program;
- Adds \$3,500,000 for Outreach and Civil Legal Services;
- Adds \$7,500,000 for the Rapid Re-Housing Program;
- Adds \$2,787,506 for increased security guard costs at BESSD (Benefit, Employment and Support Services Division) offices statewide;
- Adds \$7,000,000 for the Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System;
- Adds \$6,000,000 for the Child Protective Services shortage differential to support recruitment and retention;
- Adds \$70,000,000 for the Nursing Facility Sustainability Special Fund;
- Adds \$450,000,000 for the Hospital Sustainability Special Fund;
- Adds \$13,000,000 for ABA (Applied Behavioral Analysis) to increase provider payment rates;

- Adds \$28,120,000 for In-Home HCBS (Home and Community Based Services);
- Adds \$1,500,000 for the Child Wellness Incentive Pilot Program;
- Adds \$58,910,362 to sustain increased reimbursement rates for most medical professional services;
- Adds \$230,000 for Youth Violence Prevention;
- Adds \$2,000,000 for Youth Mental Health Support;
- Adds \$1,000,000 for Sex Trafficking Victims Support;
- Adds \$500,000 for increased security measures for the Social Services Division;
- Adds \$4,000,000 for the development and implementation of a new BES (Benefits, Eligibility Solution) System;
- Adds \$4,000,000 for the implementation and modernization of IT operations;
- Adds \$1,210,000 for Family Resource Centers; and
- Adds \$12,911,369 for the Disaster Case Management Project to continue Maui Wildfire recovery efforts.

Department of Labor & Industrial Relations:

- Adds \$8,342,260 for the Workforce Investment Opportunity (WIOA) grant;
- Adds \$5,958,695 for the Disability Compensation Division Modernization Project;
- Adds \$5,579,714 for the modernization of case tracking systems;
- Adds \$1,165,000 to implement the Hawaii Retirement Savings Program;
- Adds \$1,000,000 for the Farm to Foodbank Program; and
- Adds \$750,000 for the Family Leave Study.

Department of Land & Natural Resources:

- Adds \$14,820,456 and 22 positions for the Fire Protection Program;
- Adds \$800,000 for Hydrologic Studies;
- Adds \$5,000,000 for the Dam and Appurtenances Program;
- Adds 7 positions for the Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority; and
- Adds \$6,970,075 and 21 positions for DOCARE Academy Expansion.

Department of Law Enforcement:

- Adds \$1,300,495 and 6 positions for the Wahiawa District Court and Civic Center;
- Adds \$5,234,951 and 8 positions for the Fireworks Enforcement Section;
- Adds \$2,420,000 for the Illegal Fireworks Task Force;
- Adds \$825,000 for the Gun Buyback Project;
- Adds \$1,110,276 and 5 positions for accreditation;
- Adds \$514,000 for the Silver Alert Program;
- Adds \$10,000,000 for the Department of Education Safer Watch Program;
- Adds \$340,000 and 2 positions for the Address Confidentiality Program; and
- Adds \$3,000,000 for the IT Software Project.

Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation:

- Adds \$8,200,000 to provide Reentry Services to Help Connect Offenders with Community-Based Resources, Including Replacement Vital Documents, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment, and Transitional Housing; and
- Adds \$224,000 for Mental Health Technician Certification Program – Level 1 Trauma Informed Training.

Department of Taxation:

- Adds \$1,681,550 for Monitoring and Maintenance of the Gen Tax System;
- Adds \$794,556 for a New Online Tax Filing Platform; and
- Adds \$200,000 for the Tax Review Commission.

Department of Transportation:

- Adds \$10,905,600 for Aircraft Rescue Firefighting Operations;
- Adds \$34,999,180 for Electric Vehicle Leasing and Maintenance Supplies for Airports;
- Adds \$10,708,706 for Energy Service Company Debt Service;
- Adds \$47,625,002 for Security Contract for Airports;
- Adds \$1,000,000 for Special Maintenance Irrigation Improvement at Daniel K. Inouye International Airport;
- Adds \$2,461,300 for Automated External Defibrillator and Publicly Accessible Defibrillator Units for Airports;
- Adds \$22,260,000 for the Consolidated Rent-A-Car program;
- Adds \$392,000,969 for Revenue Bonds for Airports;

- Adds \$136,325,000 for Special Maintenance for Airports;
- Adds \$49,033,512 for Rental Car Customer Facility Charge Revenue Bonds;
- Adds \$2,020,354 for Customs and Border Protection IT Equipment for Airports;
- Adds \$550,000 for the Airports Branding Agency Contract;
- Adds \$330,000 and 1 position for Airports Landscape Architect;
- Adds \$2,152,000 for Harbors Facility Security Plan;
- Adds \$10,400,000 for Harbors Debt Service payment and Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act Loan;
- Adds \$50,000,000 for Harbors Joint Service Inter-Government Service Agreement;
- Adds \$19,017,069 for Harbors buyout of leasing of high-mast lights and fixtures with Banc of America Leasing & Capital LLC;
- Adds \$60,617,000 for Harbors General Obligation Bond and Revenue Bond Debt Service;
- Adds \$65,000,000 for Harbors Special Maintenance Projects;
- Adds \$154,794,979 for Highways General Obligation Reimbursable Bond and Revenue Bonds;
- Adds \$95,000,000 for the Highways Special Maintenance Program;
- Adds \$15,000,000 for Highways Statewide Fire Mitigation;
- Adds \$5,000,000 for Highways Property Storage and Debris Removal Services from Homeless Encampments;
- Adds \$13,459,298 for Highways Safe Routes to School Program;
- Adds \$1,941,713 for Bond Rebate Payment for Highway Revenue Bonds;
- Adds \$2,000,000 for Greenhouse Gas Reduction;
- Adds \$330,000 and 1 position for Highways Landscape Architect;
- Adds \$600,000 for Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization training programs; and
- Adds \$350,000 for the Molokai Air Subsidy Program.

University of Hawaii:

- Adds \$7,040,000 and 4 positions for UH Mānoa Athletics;
- Adds \$1,000,000 for UH Hilo Athletics;
- Adds \$660,000 for the Practical Nursing Bridge program at UHMC;
- Adds \$711,270 and 7 positions for UH Financial Aid Services;
- Adds \$960,000 and 2 positions for UHERO and UH Collaboration;
- Adds \$1,473,847 and 3 positions for 'Ulu'ulu Archives Moving Images;
- Adds \$1,263,000 and 3 positions for the Pamantasan Council;
- Adds \$250,000 and 1 position for the UH Maui Water Quality Lab; and
- Adds \$2,000,000 for AI-based career pathways programs.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 300, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 300, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Yamashita, Grandinetti, Holt, Hussey, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Kitagawa, Kusch, Lamosao, Lee, M., Miyake, Morikawa, Takenouchi, Templo, Alcos and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 15. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Dela Cruz, Moriwaki, Aquino, DeCoite, Elefante, Hashimoto, Inouye, Kanuha, Kidani, Mercado Kim, Lee, C., Wakai and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 13. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 46 on S.B. No. 405

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow neighborhood boards to discuss and receive information from third-party reports by any government official not included in a publicly noticed agenda; and
- (2) Require boards to make decisions on matters raised by third-party reports from any government official at a later meeting where the agenda gives notice of decision-making on the matter.

Your Committee on Conference finds that valuable information utilized in neighborhood board meetings often comes from third-party reports from government officials. Your Committee on Conference further finds, however, that the existing Sunshine Law requiring these reports to be included in the neighborhood boards' publicly-noticed agenda hinders its ability to hear and discuss the issues raised by the report in a timely manner. Therefore, this measure

protects the public interest by allowing neighborhood boards to hear and discuss third-party reports from government officials not included in a publicly-noticed agenda, while preserving the integrity of Sunshine Law by requiring any decisions on matters raised to be held at later meetings with proper notice of decision-making.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by making it effective upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 405, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 405, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Perruso and Shimizu.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators McKelvey, Rhoads and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 47 on S.B. No. 1651

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require board packets to be posted at least two full business days before a public meeting; and
- (2) Require boards to provide notice to persons who have requested notification of meetings at the time the board packet is made available for public inspection.

Your Committee on Conference finds that existing law requires board packets to be posted at least two business days before a public meeting to give the public ample time to review the contents. Your Committee on Conference finds, however, that some agencies are not adhering to the legislative intent of the required notice period for posting board packets before public meetings, by posting the board packets late in the evening, effectively reducing the time for public review. Therefore, this measure clarifies the deadline for posting board packets to ensure there is adequate time for the public to review the board packets before public meetings.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring board packets to be made available for public inspection no later than three full business days, rather than two full business days, before a public meeting;
- (2) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose;
- (3) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1651, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1651, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Perruso and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators McKelvey, Rhoads and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 48 on S.B. No. 752

The purpose of this measure is to increase the notice period for a property insurer to notify a policyholder of a cancellation, including cancellation due to nonpayment, of a policy of insurance on property used for residential purposes.

Your Committee on Conference finds that, under existing law, insurance providers are allowed to cancel an insurance policy upon giving the policyholder a ten-day notice of the cancellation. However, given the current precarious environment of the property insurance market in the State, a ten-day notice period is inadequate to provide policyholders with sufficient time to find replacement insurance coverage. This measure extends the required notice period for cancellation and nonrenewal of insurance policies to promote greater clarity and fairness in insurer-policyholder relationships in the State.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing language that would have required evidence of certified, electronic, or e-certified mailing of the written notice for the cancellation or nonrenewal of a policy to be deemed valid;
- (2) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose;
- (3) Changing its effective date to January 1, 2026; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 752, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 752, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Matayoshi, Chun and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.
Senators Fukunaga, McKelvey and Awa.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 49 on H.B. No. 799

The purpose of this measure is to clarify that, in counties with populations of less than five hundred thousand, a physician may practice at an organized ambulatory health care facility even if the physician does not have hospital privileges at a licensed hospital in the same geographical location as the ambulatory health care facility.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Department of Health to evaluate the benefits and impacts of this measure on local health care systems, surgical access, and financial stability and report to the Legislature prior to the Regular Session of 2027;
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 799, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 799, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Matayoshi, Chun and Garcia.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.
Senators San Buenaventura, Keohokalole, Hashimoto and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 50 on H.B. No. 511

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Provide that a survey of the land to be set aside shall not be a condition precedent to the setting aside of public lands to any department or agency of the State; and
- (2) Establish survey requirements for the transfer of public lands.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Reverting to the H.D. 1 version; and
- (2) Further amending this measure by changing its effective date to upon approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 511, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 511, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Hashem, Tarnas, Ichiyama, Iwamoto and Shimizu.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.
Senators Inouye, Gabbard, McKelvey and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3; Ayes with Reservations (McKelvey). Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 51 on H.B. No. 732

The purpose of this measure is to increase the valuation of development that determines the necessity of a special management area minor permit or special management area use permit to \$750,000, to be adjusted every five years for inflation.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the \$750,000 valuation threshold for special management area minor permits applies only if the development is not situated on a shoreline parcel or parcel that is impacted by waves, storm surges, high tide, or shoreline erosion and that if the development is situated on such a parcel, the existing statutory valuation of \$500,000 applies;
- (2) Changing its effective date to upon approval; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 732, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 732, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Hashem, Tarnas, Lamosao and Souza.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.
Senators Inouye, Chang, Rhoads, Elefante and Hashimoto.

Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Rhoads).

Conf. Com. Rep. 52 on H.B. No. 1137

The purpose of this measure is to amend the definition of "beach restoration" to expand the types of activities the State recognizes as restorative and beneficial to beach lands in response to increasing threats of sea level rise and beach loss.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that emergency erosion protection structures constructed pursuant to permits issued by the Department of Land and Natural Resources that continue to provide the protection for which they were permitted should not be deemed abandoned remnant materials;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1137, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1137, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Hashem, Tarnas, Lamosao and Shimizu.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Inouye, Moriwaki and DeCorte.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 53 on H.B. No. 1348

The purpose of this measure is to establish a public lottery system for the leasing of cabins on public lands for recreation-residence use.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the requirement that property be subject to public lottery at least once before a lessee in good standing may directly negotiate with the Board of Land and Natural Resources to renew the lease for an additional term;
- (2) Requiring annual rents for a renewed lease to be adjusted to reflect changes to the implicit price deflator for gross domestic product as published by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, applied on a five-year rolling average, rather than requiring any lease renewed to be based on the fair market value of the leased land;
- (3) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1348, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1348, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Hashem, Tarnas, Iwamoto, Morikawa and Souza.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Inouye, Rhoads, Elefante and DeCorte.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Elefante).

Conf. Com. Rep. 54 on H.B. No. 103

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit life without parole sentences for emerging adult defendants who were over eighteen years of age but under twenty-one years of age at the time of the offense.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Prohibiting life without parole sentences for persons who were under the age of twenty-one at the time of the offense, instead of emerging adult defendants;
- (2) Amending existing statutory language to change the age for which individuals are eligible for life without parole sentences or extended terms of imprisonment from eighteen years of age or older to twenty-one years of age or older; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 103, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 103, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Poepoe and Shimizu.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 2. Noes, 1 (Shimizu). Excused, none.

Senators Rhoads, Chang and Gabbard.
Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 55 on H.B. No. 399

The purpose of this measure is to establish an additional district court judgeship in the First Circuit.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 399, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 399, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Kitagawa, Belatti and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Rhoads, Moriwaki and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 56 on H.B. No. 401

The purpose of this measure is to establish an additional district court judgeship in the Third Circuit.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by changing its effective date to upon approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 401, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 401, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Kitagawa, Belatti and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Rhoads, Moriwaki and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 57 on H.B. No. 648

The purpose of this measure is to establish a two-year pilot program in the Probate Court and Family Court of the First Circuit to fund certain guardianship- and conservatorship-related court resources in situations where the respondent does not have sufficient funds to pay for one or more of the resources and the court has deemed the resource or resources beneficial.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$50,000 for each fiscal year of the 2025-2027 Fiscal Biennium for the provision of resources in the First Circuit Probate Court;
- (2) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$50,000 for each fiscal year of the 2025-2027 Fiscal Biennium for the provision of resources in the First Circuit Family Court; and
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 648, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 648, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Kitagawa, Belatti, Marten and Shimizu.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Rhoads, Elefante and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 58 on H.B. No. 727

The purpose of this measure is to

- (1) Make the Women's Court Pilot Program in the First Circuit permanent;
- (2) Establish and appropriate funds for a three-year Women's Court Pilot Program in the Kona division of the Third Circuit; and
- (3) Require the Judiciary to submit a report to the Legislature regarding the need for and the associated costs of a pilot program for Women's Court in the Second and Fifth Circuits and Hilo division of the Third Circuit.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Codifying the Women's Court Program in the First Circuit within the Hawaii Revised Statutes, rather than the Session Laws of Hawaii;

- (2) Requiring the Judiciary to be responsible for providing mental health services under the Women's Court Pilot Program in the Kona division of the Third Circuit;
- (3) Changing the duration of the Women's Court Pilot Program in the Kona division of the Third Circuit from three years to two years;
- (4) Appropriating \$514,900 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$557,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for mental health, substance abuse treatment, and other services and equipment, and the establishment of one full-time equivalent temporary Kona drug court probation supervisor position for the Women's Court Pilot Program in the Kona division of the Third Circuit;
- (5) Deleting language that would have required the Judiciary to submit a report to the Legislature regarding the need for and the associated costs of a pilot program for Women's Court in the Second and Fifth Circuits and Hilo division of the Third Circuit;
- (6) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025;
- (7) Changing the sunset date for the Women's Court Pilot Program in the Kona division of the Third Circuit to June 30, 2027; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Kitagawa, Belatti, Ichiyama, Poepoe and Shimizu.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Rhoads, DeCoite and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 59 on H.B. No. 991

The purpose of this measure is to clarify that the Department of the Attorney General may conduct fingerprint-based background checks through the Federal Bureau of Investigation on contractors, contractors' employees, and subcontractors who have access to federal tax information.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 991, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 991, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Poepoe and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 2. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, none.

Senators Rhoads, Gabbard and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 60 on H.B. No. 398

The purpose of this measure is to increase the rate of compensation and maximum allowable amounts per case for court-appointed counsel and guardians ad litem in Family Court proceedings.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by changing the effective date to upon approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 398, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 398, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Kitagawa, Belatti and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Rhoads, Moriwaki and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 61 on H.B. No. 277

The purpose of this measure is to, beginning July 1, 2027, establish a vehicular pursuit policy for law enforcement agencies.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the implementation date of the vehicular pursuit policy, including all related requirements, to January 1, 2027;
- (2) Specifying qualified offenses that authorize law enforcement officers to engage in a vehicular pursuit;
- (3) Requiring the Department of the Attorney General to adopt rules regarding the collection and reporting of certain information and Law Enforcement Standards Board to develop a model vehicular pursuit policy by July 1, 2026;

- (4) Requiring each law enforcement agency to adopt a written policy regarding vehicular pursuit and make publicly available certain information related to vehicular pursuit by January 1, 2027;
- (5) Specifying circumstances when limited portions of a law enforcement agency's vehicular pursuit policy may be redacted;
- (6) Deleting the deadlines for the following:
 - (A) The development of minimum requirements for introductory and in-service training for law enforcement officers by the Law Enforcement Standards Board;
 - (B) When each law enforcement agency, as part of its pursuit policies, are required to make clear to their employees that any violation of the vehicular pursuit policies will result in discipline; and
 - (C) When the Attorney General is authorized to investigate, and if warranted, bring a civil action against any law enforcement agency;
- (7) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 277, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 277, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Tarnas, Grandinetti and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Lee, C., Elefante and Rhoads.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 62 on H.B. No. 1259

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Specify that an engineering study is not required to be considered when reducing the maximum speed limit within ten miles per hour of an existing speed limit for that road; and
- (2) Require the Department of Transportation to use National Association of City Transportation Officials guidance when setting a maximum speed limit for sections of highways with residential or commercial areas or schools immediately on a highway.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that for sections of highways with residential or commercial areas or schools immediately adjacent to the roadway, the Department of Transportation or a county, are required to consider guidance provided by the National Association of City Transportation Officials to the extent practicable;
- (2) Specifying that the requirement to consider guidance provided by the National Association of City Transportation Officials shall not be construed to supersede any applicable standards or requirements;
- (3) Changing its effective date to upon approval; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1259, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1259, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Poepoe and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

Senators Lee, C., Gabbard, Inouye and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 63 on S.B. No. 951

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require mandatory reports of child abuse or neglect to include the military status of the child's parent or guardian, if known; and
- (2) Require the Department of Human Services to inform the appropriate authority of the United States military when, upon receiving a report of child abuse or neglect, there is sufficient information to determine that the report involves a family where one of the parents, guardians, or alleged perpetrators is a member of an identifiable branch of the United States military.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the United States Department of Defense's (DoD) Family Advocacy Program (FAP) is a congressionally mandated program designated to address child abuse and neglect, among other issues affecting children and youth in military families. Your Committee on Conference further finds that federal law also requires all DoD personnel to report any suspected cases of child abuse or neglect to military officials and FAP personnel, and to local authorities and child welfare services offices. However, there is no corresponding requirement for state and local welfare services offices to inform military officials of allegations of child abuse or neglect. With many active-duty military families living in communities located outside of military installations, combined with their frequent relocations, incidences of child abuse or neglect may remain unknown to the military. Therefore, this measure codifies a reciprocal state reporting requirement to notify military officials of allegations of child abuse and neglect to the State to facilitate better coordination of available state child welfare services and military preventative and rehabilitative services to ensure that military children and families receive the necessary support and services.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by making it effective upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 951, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 951, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Marten, Belatti, Poepoe, Iwamoto and Souza.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Iwamoto).

Senators San Buenaventura, Elefante, Gabbard and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 64 on S.B. No. 850

The purpose of this measure is to require the State Council on Developmental Disabilities to collect data and submit to the Legislature a report focused on the health disparities experienced by individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities in the State prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2027.

Your Committee on Conference finds that adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities experience disproportionate health disparities compared to those without disabilities. Your Committee on Conference further finds that it is imperative for the State to gather fundamental baseline data for service evaluation, policy development, and research to serve the current and future needs of individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities, including culturally appropriate health care, reduced barriers to health care access, reduced health disparities, and increased employment opportunities.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$550,000 for the fiscal biennium for the State Council on Developmental Disabilities to collect comprehensive data and compile and submit a report to the Legislature;
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 850, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 850, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Keohokapu-Lee Loy and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators San Buenaventura, Kanuha, Hashimoto and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 65 on S.B. No. 532

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize school staff and agents trained by a health care professional to volunteer to administer medication to students at Department of Education public schools under certain conditions; and
- (2) Clarify who may prescribe medication to be administered to students in schools.

Your Committee on Conference finds that existing law permits only school health assistants to assist students with medication administration at Department of Education schools. However, labor shortages within the health care industry can limit the availability of school health assistants, creating potential delays for students who require timely access to medication. Authorizing additional trained staff to administer medication to students under certain conditions will alleviate the strain on existing health care professionals while maintaining the health and well-being of students.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 532, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 532, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Woodson, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Chun, Olds and Souza.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Kidani, Hashimoto and Keohokalole.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 66 on S.B. No. 102

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit third-party restaurant reservation services from advertising, listing, promoting, or selling restaurant reservation services without first obtaining a written agreement from the applicable restaurant authorizing the action; and
- (2) Establish a private cause of action for civil remedies.

Your Committee on Conference finds that many third-party restaurant reservation services partner with restaurants to provide consumers with the convenience of planning their dining experiences in advance. Your Committee on Conference further finds that, although these services can be beneficial for both consumers and restaurants, there has been a growing number of third parties using predatory methods to advertise and sell restaurant reservations to consumers at high costs or without the restaurant's knowledge. This practice has negatively impacted restaurants by increasing the likelihood of no-shows which can increase costs for consumers. This measure prohibits third parties from rendering reservation services without first obtaining the express written consent from the restaurant to render such services.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that no third-party restaurant reservation service shall advertise, list, promote, facilitate, enable, or sell reservations for a restaurant without the express written consent from the restaurant;
- (2) Deleting language that would have prohibited the written consent agreements from including indemnification provisions;
- (3) Removing the non-impairment clause;
- (4) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose;
- (5) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 102, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 102, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Matayoshi, Todd and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Keohokalole, Rhoads, Fukunaga, McKelvey and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 67 on S.B. No. 1281

The purpose of this measure is to extend the sunset date of Act 107, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, which allows for the reimbursement of services provided through telehealth via an interactive telecommunications system, until December 31, 2027.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the use and expansion of telehealth services and technology in the State have been recognized as ways to increase timely access to health care, particularly in rural areas of the State. Your Committee on Conference further finds that Act 107, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023 (Act 107), temporarily allows for the reimbursement of services provided through an interactive telecommunication system and two-way, real-time audio-only communications for telehealth purposes, supporting numerous telehealth initiatives in the State that are successfully improving access to care in various settings. Your Committee on Conference additionally finds that Act 107 is slated to be repealed on December 31, 2025. This measure extends the sunset date of Act 107 by two years to ensure a continuum of care for residents in rural communities and to allow the State the opportunity to adjust to any new federal policies that may be implemented before permanently codifying Act 107.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by changing its effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1281, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1281, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Matayoshi, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Olds and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Aquino, Keohokalole, Hashimoto and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Hashimoto).

Conf. Com. Rep. 68 on S.B. No. 1431

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Hepatitis Prevention Program within the Department of Health;
- (2) Require the Department of Health to develop and implement an educational program to inform the public on how to identify and prevent hepatitis and aid in its early diagnosis;
- (3) Require the Department of Health to develop a comprehensive statewide hepatitis prevention plan;
- (4) Repeal outdated provisions related to hepatitis; and
- (5) Appropriate funds and establish positions for the Hepatitis Prevention Program.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the Department of Health reports that hepatitis B and C viral infections are associated with earlier deaths and higher death rates in the State. Your Committee on Conference further finds that the lack of public health resources dedicated to viral hepatitis has contributed to higher death rates in the State, especially for vulnerable communities such as Asian and Pacific Islander residents. Your Committee on Conference notes that to address the burden of viral hepatitis in the State, the Department of Health has successfully leveraged community and state partnerships to convene the

"Hep Free 2030: The Hawai'i Hepatitis Elimination Strategy 2020-2030", the statewide strategy to eliminate viral hepatitis that can serve as a model for the Department of Health's Hepatitis Prevention Program. This measure provides a modest investment to make a significant impact on a preventable, treatable health issue in the State.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$545,000 for the fiscal biennium for the establishment and implementation of the Hepatitis Prevention Program, including the establishment within the Department of Health of:
 - (A) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) Program Specialist V position;
 - (B) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) Epidemiological Specialist position; and
 - (C) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) Office Assistant III position; and
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1431, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1431, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Keohokapu-Lee Loy and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators San Buenaventura, Inouye, Hashimoto and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 69 on S.B. No. 1433

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend the distribution system of sterile needles and syringes under the Sterile Needle and Syringe Exchange Program from a one-to-one exchange system to a needs-based distribution system;
- (2) Authorize non-injection drug user participation in the Program; and
- (3) Modify liability for program participants, staff, and law enforcement officers.

Your Committee on Conference finds that syringe exchange programs prevent human immunodeficiency virus, hepatitis C, and other bloodborne infections; are cost effective; reduce drug use and drug overdoses; protect the public and first responders by providing safe syringe disposal; and do not cause or increase illegal drug use or other crimes. Your Committee on Conference further finds that while the State's Sterile Needle and Syringe Exchange Program has been a highly effective public health intervention, research has found that needs-based syringe distribution is more effective than a one-to-one exchange model, which restricts syringe access by limiting the number of sterile syringes and needles an individual can receive to the number of used syringes and needles they have to return. This measure provides critical improvements to the Sterile Needle and Syringe Exchange Program to increase its effectiveness and impact.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1433, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1433, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Poepoe and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 2. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, none.

Senators San Buenaventura, Rhoads, Hashimoto and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 70 on S.B. No. 1454

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to issue an order of wage payment violation to employers found to be in violation of the State's Wage and Hour Law;
- (2) Establish penalties, enforcement, and appeal procedures; and
- (3) Amend the definition of "wage" to clarify that it means compensation for labor or services rendered by an employee, regardless of how it is calculated.

Your Committee on Conference finds that existing law allows the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to issue orders of wage payment violations and assess penalties under the Payment of Wages and Other Compensation Law, such as violations relating to payment of wages, wage theft, and other compensation, but not for violations of the Wage and Hour Law, such as minimum wage or overtime requirements, leading to enforcement issues. Therefore, this measure establishes processes for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to issue orders of wage payment violations under the State's Wage and Hour Law, to ensure equal protections for a larger group of low-wage earners.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1454, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1454, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Perruso and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Aquino, Rhoads and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 71 on S.B. No. 694

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit minors from being held in jails, lockups, or prisons for adults, except temporarily under certain circumstances.

Your Committee on Conference finds that youth are more likely to experience abuse, commit suicide, and be exposed to prolonged periods of isolation if they enter an adult jail, lockup, or prison. Additionally, youth are five times more likely to be victimized in an adult facility than a juvenile facility. This measure will protect minors from the severe harms they face when placed in adult jails and prisons.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Restoring existing statutory language that requires the official in charge of a facility for the detention of adult offenders or persons charged with crime to inform the court immediately when a minor who is or appears to be under eighteen years of age is received at the facility;
- (2) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 694, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 694, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Belatti and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 2. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, none.

Senators Rhoads, Gabbard and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 72 on S.B. No. 1343

The purpose of this measure is to amend the quorum requirements to do business and validate acts of the Small Business Regulatory Review Board.

Your Committee on Conference finds that that the existing strict quorum requirements for the Small Business Regulatory Review Board, that do not account for vacant seats renders it difficult for the Board to achieve quorum, hindering its ability to conduct business. Therefore, this measure provides the Small Business Regulatory Review Board with greater flexibility to conduct board meetings by decreasing the number of members required for quorum.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1343, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1343, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Ilagan, Poepoe and Matsumoto.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators DeCoite, Fukunaga, Chang and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 73 on S.B. No. 423

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require one voting member of the Early Learning Board to have experience as a local provider of early childhood education and development services;
- (2) Add the Director of the Hawaii Head Start State Collaboration Office as an ex officio, nonvoting member to the Early Learning Board; and
- (3) Require the Early Learning Board to invite the President of the Head Start Association of Hawaii, or their designee, to serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the Board.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the Early Learning Board provides critical perspective in shaping early childhood education policy in the State. However, as the Early Learning Board serves as Hawaii's State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care for the federal Head Start Act, the

board must include representation from a Head Start program operating in the State to remain compliant with existing federal requirements. Accordingly, this measure updates the composition of the Early Learning Board to conform with requirements of the federal Head Start Act while ensuring a high level of expertise among the appointed members.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 423, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 423, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Woodson, Perruso and Souza.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Kidani, Kanuha, Kim and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kim).

Conf. Com. Rep. 74 on H.B. No. 806

The purpose of this measure is to reduce the use of illegal fireworks by appropriating funds to the Department of Law Enforcement for:

- (1) Conducting sting operations on Oahu to enforce fireworks ordinances or laws;
- (2) Establishing an explosives and firearms laboratory on Oahu;
- (3) Establishing a new explosive enforcement section, including staffing, within the Department's Criminal Investigation Division; and
- (4) Establishing a fireworks program to provide educational campaigns to promote public safety and awareness through advertising and promotional videos.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting the following appropriation amounts:
 - (A) \$500,000 for sting operations on Oahu for fiscal year 2025-2026 and the same sum for fiscal year 2026-2027; and
 - (B) \$2,000,000 to establish an explosives and firearms laboratory on Oahu for fiscal year 2025-2026 only;
- (2) Deleting the unspecified appropriations and positions for the Explosive Enforcement Section and fireworks educational campaigns;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 806, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 806, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Todd, Lee, M., Garrett and Souza.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Elefante, Rhoads, Kim, Wakai and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Rhoads).

Conf. Com. Rep. 75 on H.B. No. 1031

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate or authorize funds for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Bargaining Unit (5), along with their excluded counterparts.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Appropriating \$7,779,584 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$18,100,306 for fiscal year 2026-2027, for collective bargaining cost items for members of Bargaining Unit (5) and their excluded counterparts;
- (2) Deleting unnecessary language relating to the expenditure ceiling;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1031, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1031, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Lee, M. and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Aquino, Elefante and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 76 on H.B. No. 162

The purpose of this measure is to expand the pool of interest arbitrators to resolve labor disputes by:

- (1) Authorizing the Hawaii Labor Relations Board to request the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service to furnish a list of five qualified and experienced interest arbitrators if the parties fail to select the neutral third member of the arbitration panel; and
- (2) Clarifying that the list of five interest arbitrators may contain arbitrators from the American Arbitration Association and the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by changing the effective date to upon approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 162, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 162, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Todd, Lee, M., Garrett and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garrett).

Senators Aquino, Kanuha and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 77 on S.B. No. 38

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the legislative body of a county from imposing stricter conditions than the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation, stricter area median income requirements, or a reduction in fee waivers to housing development proposals that would increase the cost of the project.

Your Committee on Conference finds that certain exemptions for proposed housing developments under section 201H-38, Hawaii Revised Statutes, ensure that housing units developed by the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) remain primarily affordable. While the legislative body of a county serves an important role in reviewing the proposed development of certain housing units within their respective communities, the addition of stricter conditions imposed by a county's legislative body to the proposed housing development may inadvertently increase construction costs and delay completion of a project. Therefore, this measure will help to ensure the financial feasibility of housing development projects that assist the State in alleviating its housing shortage.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language requiring HHFDC to provide counties with an opportunity to comment on certain housing projects;
- (2) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 38, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 38, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Evslin, Tarnas, La Chica, Miyake and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

Senators Chang, Rhoads, Kanuha and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 78 on S.B. No. 66

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require permits to be issued by applicable permitting agencies within sixty days of a complete application being filed for single-family and multi-family housing projects if certain conditions are satisfied;
- (2) Automatically deem approved a permit that is either not otherwise approved by the applicable permitting agency within sixty days or for which the applicant has agreed to all corrections, changes, or recommendations to the plans and specifications made by the applicable permitting agency;
- (3) Pause the sixty-day permit review period under certain circumstances; and
- (4) Sunset June 30, 2030.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the State is experiencing a chronic housing shortage that is far outpaced by demand. Presently, county permitting agencies statewide are experiencing significant delays with the approval process, which can increase development costs and postpone the timeline for construction. By establishing an optional expedited permit approval process for single-family and multi-family homes, the State can expeditiously develop housing units that address the ongoing housing shortage while ensuring housing units remain affordable. Therefore, this measure streamlines the permitting process for certain residential housing developments while providing additional housing units for Hawaii's working individuals and families.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that permit applications for single-family and multi-family housing projects in each county shall be eligible for an expedited permit approval, rather than requiring permits to be issued within a certain period;
- (2) Inserting language that:

- (A) Authorizes an applicant or an applicant's agent to submit an optional request to the county for an expedited permit if sixty business days have lapsed after the application was considered complete by the relevant agency and the application has not received full approval by the county;
- (B) Requires the optional request to include:
 - (i) A full and complete set of plans;
 - (ii) Statements or evidence from the relevant permitting agencies that adequate infrastructure capacity is available;
 - (iii) Information regarding policies of insurance from all licensed professionals on record specifying certain coverage requirements naming the State and county as insureds, and indemnifying both;
 - (iv) A statement that sixty business days have lapsed without approval since the application would have been considered complete by the relevant agency; and
 - (v) The required county contractor's statement;
- (C) Establishes the requirements for an application to be considered complete;
- (D) Limits eligible projects to those not higher than thirty feet and projects that are not situated on a shoreline parcel or a parcel that is impacted by waves, storm waves, high tide, or other shoreline erosion and requires projects to be in compliance with chapter 205A, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (E) Requires all plans and specifications submitted to a county to have been stamped by a duly licensed structural, civil, electrical, or mechanical engineer and licensed professional, certifying compliance with the applicable building codes for the respective counties;
- (F) Requires any other administrative criteria that the county deems necessary;
- (G) If the county determines that the application is not complete, requires each county to notify the applicant and specify the information needed to meet requirements to complete submittal;
- (H) Clarifies that, for owner-builder exemptions, the owner shall execute a waiver of all claims against the State and county and execute a statement that indemnifies the State, its officers, agents, and employees and the county, its officers, and agents;
- (I) Provides that, for certain building permits that apply for and meet the criteria for an expedited permit, the county shall execute an agreement with the licensed professional on record as assuming approval and oversight responsibility for the permit application, and shall consider the application approved upon approval of the agreement;
- (J) Requires the licensed professional on record or county to ensure that the project construction is in compliance with the approved plans under the expedited permit, under certain conditions; and
- (K) Requires the licensed professional to certify in writing to the county that a certificate of occupancy is warranted upon completion of construction;
- (3) Clarifying that each county may adopt administrative rules pursuant to chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to define the sixty-day period, and charge any necessary fees to effectuate the expedited permit approval process;
- (4) Clarifying that the issuance of a certificate of occupancy shall not be construed to limit or repeal any powers of any county to enforce violations of any law, ordinance, or rule;
- (5) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose;
- (6) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2026;
- (7) Inserting a sunset date of June 30, 2031; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 66, S.D. 2, H.D. 3, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 66, S.D. 2, H.D. 3, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Evslin, Lamosao, Tarnas, Miyake and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Chang, Gabbard and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 79 on H.B. No. 1162

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require a person to successfully complete a basic motorcycle rider course approved by the Department of Transportation and the City and County of Honolulu as a condition for obtaining a motorcycle instruction permit; and
- (2) Clarify that a person shall not operate a motor vehicle in connection with the driving training course without a valid temporary instruction permit unless it is a motorcycle that is being used for training purposes on an enclosed state certified training range.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the need for course approval by the City and County of Honolulu;
- (2) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1162, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1162, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Poepoe and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

Senators Lee, C., Rhoads, Elefante and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 80 on H.B. No. 1422

The purpose of this measure is to exempt community-based organizations engaged in community-based economic development providing transportation services from the Motor Carrier Law under certain circumstances.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the sunset date; and
- (2) Making it effective upon approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1422, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1422, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Chun, Grandinetti, Quinlan and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Quinlan, Pierick).

Senators Lee, C., Keohokalole, Kanuha and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kanuha).

Conf. Com. Rep. 81 on H.B. No. 226

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit a person from installing, mounting, adhering, affixing, or using any sun screening device in conjunction with the glazing material of a motor vehicle with mirrored, metallic, red, yellow, amber, or blue tint;
- (2) Require all drivers and passengers of motor vehicles with applied tint to fully roll down their windows when stopped by a law enforcement officer at a traffic stop;
- (3) Exempt side windows to the rear of the driver and rear windows on sedans from sun screening device requirements; and
- (4) Increase the minimum and maximum fines for violating sun screening device requirements.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Replacing metallic finishes with high reflective finishes that produce a red, yellow, amber, or blue appearance;
- (2) Including certain exceptions to the requirement that all drivers and passengers of motor vehicles with applied tint to fully roll down their windows when stopped by a law enforcement officer;
- (3) Clarifying the light transmittance levels on sun screening devices used in conjunction with glazing material for front side windows and wing windows;
- (4) Exempting rear windshields on certain vehicles from sun screening device requirements;
- (5) Making the absence of the certificate certifying that a sunscreen device complies with the law in a vehicle, prima facie evidence that an installer is noncompliant with the law;
- (6) Requiring the Department of Transportation to notify all licensed motor vehicle inspection stations of the changes to sun screening device requirements by this measure within 90 days after the enactment of this measure;
- (7) Inserting a savings clause;
- (8) Making it effective upon approval; and
- (9) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 226, H.D. 3, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 226, H.D. 3, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Matayoshi, Tamas, Grandinetti and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

Senators Lee, C., Keohokalole, Chang and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Chang).

Conf. Com. Rep. 82 on H.B. No. 228

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the use of license plate flipping devices and obscuring a vehicle's license plate through the use of a cover or shield.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the prohibition on the use of license plate flipping devices applies to any motor vehicle operated on any public roadways in the State;
- (2) Specifying that each prohibited act under this measure constitutes a separate and distinct violation;
- (3) Clarifying the prohibition on obstructing a license plate, including the definition of "cover" or "shield";
- (4) Inserting a savings clause;
- (5) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 228, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 228, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Tarnas, Grandinetti and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Lee, C., Chang, Fukunaga and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Chang).

Conf. Com. Rep. 83 on S.B. No. 1245

The purpose of this measure is to, beginning January 1, 2026:

- (1) Prohibit the denial of coverage and mandate reimbursement for services provided by registered pharmacists practicing within their scope of practice by private health plans in the State;
- (2) Clarify that participation in a policy, contract, plan, or agreement with coverage for prescription drug benefits does not satisfy the requirement that contacted registered pharmacists be included in a network of participating providers;
- (3) Prohibit the denial of a registered pharmacist's ability to contract if standard credentialing requirements are met, with an exemption;
- (4) Specify that if policies, contracts, plans, or agreements delegate credentialing to health care facilities, then the credentialing of registered pharmacists contracted or employed by those facilities shall be accepted; and
- (5) Mandate reimbursement for services provided by registered pharmacists practicing within their scope of practice by public health plans upon approval of the Hawaii Medicaid State Plan by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Your Committee on Conference finds that pharmacists are among the most trusted and accessible health care professionals, with about ninety percent of Americans living within five miles of a pharmacy, and pharmacists can provide high quality services, particularly related to the safe and effective use of medications. Your Committee on Conference further finds that these pharmacist services are routinely provided in select in-patient, out-patient, and community or retail settings in the State, but because pharmacists are unable to be directly reimbursed by health plans for many of these services, building budget models that can sustainably pay for and expand these needed services are a challenge. This measure improves reimbursement for services rendered by registered pharmacists under certain conditions to safely provide certain health care services cost-effectively and meet the health care needs of the State's residents.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Reverting to the language of the H.D. 1 version of this measure to:
 - (A) Specify that the provisions of this measure applicable to health insurers, mutual benefit societies, and health maintenance organizations apply to policies, contracts, plans, or agreements delivered or issued for delivery on or after July 1, 2026, rather than January 1, 2026; and
 - (B) Require policies, contracts, plans, or agreements by health insurers, mutual benefit societies, and health maintenance organizations to recognize pharmacists as participating providers;
- (2) Deleting language that would have prohibited the denial of coverage for benefits for health care services provided by a registered pharmacist if certain conditions are met;
- (3) Deleting language that would have provided that the participation of a registered pharmacist in a policy, contract, plan, or agreement that includes coverage for prescription drug benefits does not satisfy the requirements that health insurers, mutual benefit societies, and health maintenance organizations include contracted registered pharmacists in their networks of participating providers;
- (4) Deleting language that would have prohibited insurers, mutual benefit societies, and health maintenance organizations from denying the ability for a registered pharmacist to contract with those entities if standard credentialing requirements are met, except for vertically integrated networks;
- (5) Deleting language that would have specified that insurers, mutual benefit societies, and health maintenance organizations that delegate credentialing agreements to health care facilities shall accept credentialing of registered pharmacists employed or contracted by those facilities; and
- (6) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purposes;
- (7) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1245, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1245, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Matayoshi and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators San Buenaventura, Keohokalole, Hashimoto and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 84 on S.B. No. 104

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) By July 1, 2026, restrict the use of restrictive housing in state-operated and state-contracted correctional facilities, with certain specified exceptions;
- (2) Establish a Restrictive Housing Legislative Working Group to develop and recommend more comprehensive laws, policies, and procedures regarding restrictive housing for members of vulnerable populations by September 1, 2027;
- (3) Require the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission to review restrictive housing placements on an annual basis;
- (4) Authorize the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, by December 1, 2027, to implement policies and procedures recommended by the Restrictive Housing Legislative Working Group related to committed persons; and
- (5) Require interim and final reports to the Legislature and Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the overuse of restrictive housing, commonly known as solitary confinement, is a harmful practice within the prison system that is often excessively punitive in nature and contrary to the goal of rehabilitation. Your Committee on Conference further finds that limiting the application of restrictive housing to certain circumstances, coupled with establishing a working group to make recommendations regarding restrictive housing for vulnerable populations, is a critical step towards harm reduction and improving the overall outcomes of incarceration.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the date by which the Restrictive Housing Legislative Working Group shall make its recommendations to the Legislature and dissolve from September 1, 2027, to January 8, 2027;
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 104, S.D. 2, H.D. 3, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 104, S.D. 2, H.D. 3, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Belatti, Tarnas, Lamosao, Hashem, Iwamoto and Souza.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Iwamoto).

Senators Elefante, Rhoads, Moriwaki, Fukunaga and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Fukunaga, Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 85 on S.B. No. 401

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish prohibitions on assault rifles, assault shotguns, and .50 caliber firearms; and
- (2) Expand the ban on high-capacity detachable magazines.

Your Committee on Conference finds that due to increased gun violence in the State, additional restrictions on certain types of firearms and ammunition are necessary to promote public safety.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date of the prohibitions on assault rifles, assault shotguns, and .50 caliber firearms from July 8, 2025, to January 1, 2026;
- (2) Clarifying that if the legally registered owner of an assault rifle or assault shotgun transfers the weapon without remuneration, including by bequest or intestate succession, to the registered owner's spouse, reciprocal beneficiary, or lineal descendant, then the transferee may apply, within ninety days of receiving possession of the assault rifle or assault shotgun, to obtain a permit to acquire the weapon pursuant to section 134-2 and register the weapon in the transferee's name, unless the transferee is disqualified from the ownership, possession, or control of a firearm;
- (3) Changing its effective date to January 1, 2026; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 401, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 401, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Todd and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 2. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, none.

Senators Elefante, Rhoads, Chang and Wakai.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 86 on S.B. No. 1298

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend the Electronic Device Recycling and Recovery Act by:

- (A) Expanding the types of electronic devices to include electronic device peripherals and certain legacy devices;
 - (B) Excluding manufacturers of only electronic device peripherals and no other electronic devices;
 - (C) Allowing, rather than require, the Department of Health to determine additional penalties and impose certain fines;
 - (D) Requiring manufacturers' recycling plans to describe communication efforts with the State and counties to facilitate consumer education efforts;
 - (E) Clarifying that a manufacturer or group of manufacturers shall implement its recycling plan upon approval from the Department of Health;
 - (F) Repealing the requirement that recycling plans be implemented and fully operational by January 1, 2023, for manufacturer collaboration authority to apply;
 - (G) Establishing additional manufacturer recycling goals beginning January 1, 2026, and January 1, 2027;
 - (H) Requiring additional information to be included in manufacturers' reports for calendar years 2025, 2026, and 2027;
 - (I) Requiring collectors to report certain information regarding recyclers and refurbishers; and
 - (J) Allowing the Department of Health to require collectors to submit bills of lading and recycler receiving reports for shipments to recyclers; and
- (2) Require the Department of Health to submit a report to the Legislature prior to the Regular Session of 2028.

Your Committee on Conference recognizes that recent updates to state electronic waste laws have not led to an increase in recycling access and convenience to the general public. This measure updates and expands Hawaii's Electronic Device Recycling and Recovery Act to better address the current needs and concerns of the State's electronic waste recycling program to further promote responsible environmental practices and mitigate the impact of electronic waste on the public health and the delicate environment of the State.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Restoring existing statutory language that requires the Department of Health to impose a penalty on manufacturers that fail to meet its recycling goals;
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1298, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1298, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Lowen, Matayoshi, Quinlan and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Gabbard, Hashimoto, Keohokalole, DeCoite, Richards and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Hashimoto, Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 87 on S.B. No. 1322

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Health to submit annual reports to the Legislature on emergency transportations and assisted community treatment petitions and orders, based on information provided by service providers;
- (2) Clarify the procedures for emergency transportation, examination, and hospitalization for individuals who may be mentally ill or suffering from substance abuse who are imminently dangerous to self or others;
- (3) Require treatment providers to provide relevant information to the Attorney General for purposes of preparing an assisted community treatment petition;
- (4) Amend the procedures for involuntary hospitalizations and assisted community treatment petitions; and
- (5) Clarify the circumstances under which a subject of an assisted community treatment order can be administered medication over objection.

Your Committee on Conference finds that given the increasing number of individuals in the State impacted by mental health challenges, establishing a clear and effective mental health care system has become an urgent priority. Your Committee on Conference further finds that a systematic review and refinement of the intricate mental health laws outlined in chapter 334, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is necessary to provide clarification and clear guidance of the procedures related to emergency transport, emergency examination, and emergency hospitalization and mechanisms to engage individuals in treatment over their objection, including assisted community treatment. This measure provides a comprehensive update to the State's mental health care laws to clarify and streamline existing procedures and strengthen the legal framework for supporting individuals suffering from mental illness or substance abuse.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the Department of Health's annual reporting requirements on emergency transportations and assisted community treatment petitions and orders;
- (2) Deleting language that would have authorized a law enforcement officer to temporarily detain an individual specifically at law enforcement facilities, upon initiating emergency transportations under certain circumstances;
- (3) Inserting language to clarify that for an emergency transportation initiated by a health care provider, the examining health care provider is authorized to:
 - (A) Direct a law enforcement officer to detain and transport the individual by ambulance or other suitable means to a psychiatric facility or other facility designated by the director for an emergency examination; and
 - (B) Administer treatment, within the examining health care provider's scope of practice, as necessary for the individual's safe transportation;
- (4) Clarifying that those performing the emergency transport, rather than the health care provider, shall coordinate the transport of the individual with the mental health emergency worker;

- (5) Clarifying the procedures for an emergency examination pursuant to an emergency transportation initiated by a law enforcement officer, court order, or health provider under chapter 334, Hawaii Revised Statutes, including:
 - (A) Authorizing a physician assistant and psychologist to conduct an initial examination and screening, to determine whether the criteria for involuntary hospitalization persists; and
 - (B) Requiring, rather than authorizing, further examination by a qualified psychiatric examiner if after the initial examination, screening, and treatment, the examining health care provider determines that the involuntary hospitalization criteria persists;
- (6) Inserting language to authorize a single psychiatrist, rather than a panel of three, to provide administrative authorization for medical treatment over the objection of a patient who is in the custody of the Director of Health and in a psychiatric facility;
- (7) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose;
- (8) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (9) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1322, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1322, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Poepoe and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3; Ayes with Reservations (Poepoe). Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators San Buenaventura, Elefante, Rhoads and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 88 on S.B. No. 1323

The purpose of this measure is to adopt the Uniform Health Care Decisions Act (2023), as modified, to replace existing chapters related to advance health care directives and advance mental health care directives.

Your Committee on Conference finds that in 1999, the Legislature passed the Uniform Health-Care Decisions Act (1993), which was enacted and codified as chapter 327E, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and in 2004, passed law governing advance mental health care directives, which was enacted and codified as chapter 327G, Hawaii Revised Statutes. Your Committee on Conference further finds that an updated Uniform Health-Care Decisions Act was promulgated by the Uniform Law Commission in 2023, reflecting a multiyear collaborative and non-partisan process to modernize and expand on the Uniform Health-Care Decisions Act approved by the Uniform Law Commission in 1993. This measure updates and consolidates the State's current laws by adopting a modified version of the Uniform Health-Care Decisions Act (2023), as promulgated by the Uniform Law Commission, which reflects a better understanding of capacity and reduces barriers to creating advance directives relating to general health care and mental health.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language to clarify that an individual may revoke the appointment of an agent, the designation of a default surrogate, or a health care instruction unless, among other reasons, the individual is found to lack the capacity to do so, and if the individual objects to the finding, the finding is confirmed;
- (2) Inserting language to clarify that the power of an agent or a default surrogate shall:
 - (A) Cease if the individual is later found to have capacity to make a health care decision or the individual objects to the finding of lack of capacity; and
 - (B) Resume if the power ceased because the individual objected to the finding of lack of capacity and the finding of lack of capacity is confirmed or a court finds that the individual lacks capacity to make a health care decision;
- (3) Inserting language to require the health care professional who makes or is informed of a finding that an individual lacks capacity to make a health care decision to communicate that the individual may object to the finding of lack of capacity;
- (4) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1323, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1323, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Poepoe and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators San Buenaventura, Rhoads, Hashimoto and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 89 on S.B. No. 1429

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Department of Health to impose penalties and take enforcement actions for violations of the medical cannabis laws;
- (2) Effective January 1, 2025, retroactively repeal the prohibition against primary caregivers cultivating medical cannabis for their qualifying patients, and authorize primary caregivers to cultivate cannabis in an amount not to exceed an adequate supply for the qualifying patient; and

- (3) Effective June 28, 2025, extend for two years the sunset on the interim rules adopted by the Department of Health and extend for four years the sunset date for the exemption from civil service of personnel hired by, or contracts entered into by, the Department of Health related to the medical cannabis dispensary system.

Your Committee on Conference finds that access to medical cannabis for medical cannabis patients includes the ability to cultivate cannabis in a lawful, safe, and patient-focused approach by the patients themselves or their designated primary caregivers. Your Committee on Conference further finds that some qualifying patients are unable to cultivate medical cannabis on their own due to debilitating medical conditions, mobility impairments that make tending to plants difficult or impossible, or restrictions on cultivation at their place of residence. This measure protects patients' rights, ensuring long-term access to a safe and legal supply of medical cannabis.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Reverting to language from the S.D. 1 version of this measure to increase the number of qualifying patients a primary caregiver is authorized to care for and a location used to cultivate cannabis is used to cultivate cannabis for from one to five qualifying patients, retroactive to January 1, 2025;
- (2) Repealing existing obsolete statutory language that authorizes a primary caregiver who is the parent, guardian, or person having legal custody of more than one minor qualifying patient to be responsible for the care of more than one minor qualifying patient at any given time, retroactive to January 1, 2025;
- (3) Making the extension of the sunset on interim rules adopted by the Department of Health and sunset on the exemption from civil service of personnel hired by the Department of Health effective upon its approval; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1429, S.D. 2, H.D. 3, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1429, S.D. 2, H.D. 3, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Matayoshi, Tarnas and Matsumoto.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators San Buenaventura, Keohokalole, Gabbard and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 90 on H.B. No. 410

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the operating budget for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting appropriate operating amounts for fiscal biennium 2025-2027;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Specifically, this budget measure, as amended, appropriates operating totals of:

	<u>FY 2025-2026</u>	<u>FY 2026-2027</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	3,000,000	3,000,000
ALL MEANS OF FINANCE	6,000,000	6,000,000

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 410, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 410, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Yamashita, Poepoe, Takenouchi and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5; Ayes with Reservations (Garcia). Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Richards, Moriwaki, Keohokalole and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 91 on S.B. No. 1051

The purpose of this measure is to designate September as Hawaiian History Month.

Your Committee on Conference finds that designating September, which is the birth month of Queen Liliuokalani, as Hawaiian History month in the State is an appropriate way to honor and recognize Queen Liliuokalani and the vital cultural contributions of the Native Hawaiian people.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by making it effective upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1051, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1051, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kapela, Poepoe and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

Senators Lee, C., DeCorte and Kanuha.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 92 on S.B. No. 1095

The purpose of this measure is to reduce the burden on organizations attempting to amend special number plate statutes and the counties attempting to implement special number plate requirements by expanding the existing decal size restrictions.

Your Committee on Conference finds that private organizations have attempted to amend existing law to enable special number plates with full-plate designs to raise revenue for their causes. However, the county agencies responsible for issuing license plates bear significant burden contracting to produce new license plates each time a new license plate law is adopted. Your Committee on Conference further finds that existing law allows private organizations to apply for and have license plate designs based on decals added to standard license plates limited to a certain size, which can raise revenue for their causes, without having to change the law or further burdening the counties. This measure increases the existing decal size restrictions to reduce the burden on organizations attempting to amend special number plate law and the counties attempting to implement special number plate requirements.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by making it effective upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1095, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1095, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Poepoe, Grandinetti and Muraoka.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

Senators Lee, C., Elefante, Inouye and DeCorte.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Inouye).

Conf. Com. Rep. 93 on S.B. No. 1102

The purpose of this measure is to specify the appointment processes and terms for the Fire Chief of the Hawaii State Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Unit of the Airports Division of the Department of Transportation.

Your Committee on Conference finds that existing state law does not articulate the term duration and term limits for the appointed Chief of the State Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Unit. Your Committee on Conference further finds that it is necessary to correct the vagueness in the statute pertaining to this critically important position by clarifying the appointment processes and terms of service.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring, rather than authorizing, the Director of Transportation to appoint the Fire Chief of the Hawaii State Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Unit from a list of qualified candidates submitted for consideration by the State Fire Council, subject to the advice and consent of the Senate;
- (2) Changing the number of qualified candidates submitted on the list from five to three;
- (3) Deleting language that would have required the Director of Transportation to give strong consideration to and prioritize those candidates;
- (4) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1102, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1102, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Tarnas and Muraoka.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Lee, C., Elefante, Chang and DeCorte.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Chang).

Conf. Com. Rep. 94 on S.B. No. 1195

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit street parking within twenty feet on each side of any crosswalk or intersection, regardless of the presence or absence of official signs or curb markings;
- (2) Require fines collected for street parking restrictions to be deposited into the Safe Routes to School Program Special Fund; and
- (3) Specify that signs or curb markings shall not be required to restrict parking within twenty feet of a crosswalk or intersection.

Your Committee on Conference finds that pedestrian injuries and deaths often occur at crosswalks and intersections. Your Committee on Conference further finds that parking in crosswalks and intersections impacts pedestrian visibility and potentially exacerbates the high number of accidents at these specific areas. Therefore, this measure prohibits parking within certain distances of crosswalks and enhances enforcement measures to ensure safety for pedestrians.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to January 1, 2026; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1195, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1195, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Poepoe, Grandinetti and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Lee, C., Rhoads and Kanuha.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kanuha).

Conf. Com. Rep. 95 on S.B. No. 1216

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Condition the issuance of a certificate of inspection upon a vehicle or moped not being equipped with a noisy muffler or exhaust system;
- (2) Require rules regarding safety check inspections to ensure that a vehicle or moped is not equipped with a noisy muffler or exhaust system;
- (3) Suspend, revoke, or refuse renewal of a permit for an official inspection station for repeatedly violating any rule regarding inspecting a noisy muffler or exhaust system within a certain period;
- (4) Clarify the types of mufflers that are prohibited, except for certain motorcycles and mopeds;
- (5) Increase the maximum fine for motor vehicle owners that violate noisy muffler laws; and
- (6) Include repairing or installing a noisy muffler or exhaust system as a prohibited practice for motor vehicle repair laws.

Your Committee on Conference finds that excessive noise pollution, particularly from loud mufflers on motor vehicles, impacts many communities throughout the State. Your Committee on Conference further finds that strengthening inspection requirements and enforcement measures will enhance public health, safety, and quality of life for all residents in the State.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have exempted motorcycles and mopeds from motor vehicle muffler modification regulations if the motorcycle or moped did not exceed United States Environmental Protection Agency regulations;
- (2) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1216, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1216, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Tarnas, Grandinetti and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

Senators Lee, C., Rhoads and Moriwaki.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Moriwaki).

Conf. Com. Rep. 96 on S.B. No. 1522

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify that proof that a transferor has filed required notice forms with the County Director of Finance serves as a complete defense to any action brought against the transferor for an act or omission, civil or criminal, arising from the use, operation, or abandonment of the vehicle by another person; and
- (2) Require by July 1, 2026, the Judiciary to determine whether new forms or modification of the Judiciary's website is necessary to assist vehicle transferors and, if so, to create the forms or modify the website.

Your Committee on Conference finds that when a vehicle transfer is made in the State, the transfer is not considered complete until the county receives a certificate of ownership documenting the transfer. When the buyer of a vehicle fails to submit the required documentation, the vehicle remains legally registered to the previous owner, rendering the previous owner liable for certain penalties or infractions though they are no longer in possession of the vehicle. This measure protects transferors from any liability that may result from the operation of a transferred vehicle.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting legislative findings;
- (2) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (3) Making technical nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1522, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1522, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Tarnas and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Lee, C., Rhoads and DeCorte.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 97 on S.B. No. 30

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit persons under the age of sixteen from driving a moped; and
- (2) Prohibit persons under the age of twenty-one from driving a moped without a helmet.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the inherent risk of driving a moped, which is a two-wheeled vehicle without a seatbelt or surrounding structure protecting drivers in the event of a crash, necessitates certain restrictions on operating this form of transportation in the State. Your Committee on Conference further finds that limiting the operation of mopeds to drivers aged sixteen and older and requiring the use of a helmet while driving a moped are necessary and appropriate steps to promote public safety.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring all persons, regardless of age, to wear a safety helmet securely fastened with a chin strap when driving a moped;
- (2) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 30, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 30, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Tarnas, Grandinetti and Muraoka.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Lee, C., Rhoads, Chang and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Chang).

Conf. Com. Rep. 98 on S.B. No. 97

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the penalty for a third or subsequent offense within five years of excessive speeding to a misdemeanor with a mandatory minimum jail sentence of thirty days;
- (2) Clarify penalties for noncompliance with the maximum speed limit under an automated speed enforcement system; and
- (3) Specify that any summons or citations resulting from noncompliance shall not be recorded on a person's traffic abstract and used for insurance purposes.

Your Committee on Conference finds that speed-related traffic fatalities and accidents are a chronic problem in the State. Your Committee on Conference further finds that strengthening the laws relating to compliance with maximum speed limits is necessary to promote public safety and protect drivers and passengers.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the applicable state or county speed limit refers to the maximum speed limit instead of the minimum speed limit;
- (2) Deleting language that would have required any person who violates the excessive speeding laws within five years of two prior convictions for the same offense to report, within seven days of sentencing, to the appropriate police department, sheriff's office, or other governmental agency for fingerprinting; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 97, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 97, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Tarnas, Kitagawa and Muraoka.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Lee, C., Chang and Elefante.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 99 on S.B. No. 321

The purpose of this measure is to establish a process for transferring fee simple absolute title of orphan streets to adjacent property owners under certain conditions, such as when the subdivider has dissolved, has ceased to exist, or is deceased, and include legal procedures for filing the action for transfer.

Your Committee on Conference finds that it is necessary to clarify the transfer of the fee simple ownership process for certain privately owned roadways or trails in the State in situations where the previous owner no longer exists and the State or a county has not been named grantee via a deed conveyance. Your Committee on Conference further finds that establishing a clear transfer process of these paths to an adjacent owner under certain circumstances will help to avoid legal disputes pertaining to liability, maintenance, and access.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Reverting to the language of the S.D. 1 version of this measure to provide that fee simple absolute title of a privately owned highway, road, alley, street, way, lane, bikeway, bridge, or trail is deemed transferred to a community association consisting of contiguous or adjacent property owners if certain conditions are met;
- (2) Specifying that the transfer requirements apply to any county with a population of less than 250,000;
- (3) Specifying the required notice that the community association to which the property is being transferred to is required to give of a potential transfer of property;
- (4) Specifying that a transfer of a fee simple title requires a year to have lapsed without the filing of a competing challenge or claim since the community association has given the required notice for the transfer;
- (5) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2027;
- (6) Inserting a sunset date of July 1, 2032; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 321, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 321, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Hashem, Tarnas, Kusch and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Lee, C., Inouye, Keohokalole, Rhoads and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Keohokalole).

Conf. Com. Rep. 100 on S.B. No. 344

The purpose of this measure is to require all skateboard users under the age of eighteen to wear a helmet while operating a skateboard on public property.

Your Committee on Conference finds that skateboard accidents can result in serious injury to the skateboard rider, of which head injuries are especially dangerous. Your Committee on Conference further finds that helmet usage prevents injuries and reduces hospitalization and morbidity. Therefore, this measure enhances public safety by implementing helmet requirements to protect skateboard riders.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 344, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 344, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Poepoe, Grandinetti, Takenouchi and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Takenouchi, Muraoka).

Senators Lee, C., Rhoads, Elefante and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 101 on S.B. No. 597

The purpose of this measure is to extend the deadline in which the Administrative Driver's License Revocation Office is required to issue a written review decision of a notice of administrative revocation of a person's license to operate a vehicle.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the State's existing deadlines for the Administrative Driver's License Revocation Office to issue its initial decision regarding whether to revoke the driver's license of an individual suspected of operating a vehicle under the influence of an intoxicant are unreasonable. The current deadlines align with neither national best practices nor the technological realities of toxicology laboratories for testing specimens for drugs and alcohol. Your Committee on Conference therefore concludes that by extending the deadlines, this measure will enable the Administrative Driver's License Revocation Office to issue decisions that are based on physical evidence, resulting in more reliable, just outcomes.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 597, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 597, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Tarnas and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

Senators Lee, C., Rhoads, Moriwaki and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Moriwaki).

Conf. Com. Rep. 102 on S.B. No. 1008

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the counties to adopt ordinances to enforce the accessible parking space requirements for parking spaces reserved for persons with disabilities and electric vehicles; and
- (2) Repeal the requirement for any public or private entity that provides parking spaces reserved for persons with disabilities to comply with laws relating to parking for disabled persons.

Your Committee on Conference finds that there is insufficient enforcement for the improper use of electric vehicle parking and parking for persons with disabilities. Therefore, this measure will expand enforcement mechanisms available to the counties to demonstrate the State's commitment to sustainable and accessible transportation.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have repealed the requirement for any public or private entity that provides parking spaces reserved for persons with disabilities to comply with laws relating to parking for disabled persons, including penalties for noncompliance;
- (2) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose;
- (3) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1008, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1008, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Tarnas and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

Senators Lee, C., Wakai, Rhoads and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 103 on S.B. No. 1365

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Hawaii Medical Board, as a State of Principal License, to investigate and request criminal history records of qualified physicians seeking licensure through the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact; and
- (2) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (Compact), enacted by Act 112, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, was intended to streamline the licensing process for physicians seeking to practice in multiple states, including Hawaii. Due to Hawaii's ongoing physician shortage, the Compact, among other things, makes it possible to extend the reach of physicians, improve access to medical specialists, and leverage the use of medical technologies, such as telemedicine.

To fully participate in the Compact, however, authorization to conduct criminal history record checks is necessary as part of the licensing process. These background checks are a standard component of physician licensing nationwide and serve as a safeguard to protect patients and uphold the integrity of the medical system. Without this authority, the Hawaii Medical Board risks being able to issue licenses under the Compact, limiting the benefits intended by joining the Compact. Accordingly, this measure will allow the Hawaii Medical Board, under the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, to conduct criminal background checks as part of its applicant screening process under the Compact to ensure that licenses are only issued to qualified, safe, and competent physicians, thereby ensuring that the benefits of entering the Compact can be fully implemented and realized in the State.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the appropriation from the Compliance Resolution Fund;
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1365, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1365, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Chun, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Amato and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Fukunaga, Moriwaki and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 104 on S.B. No. 1536

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal the exemption of the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority from the State's Employees' Retirement System; and
- (2) Require a retirant returning to service as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority to re-enroll into the Employees' Retirement System.

Your Committee on Conference finds that existing law exempts the position of President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority from enrolling in the Employees' Retirement System. Your Committee on Conference further finds that exempting public employment positions from the Employees' Retirement System can lead to inequity within the public service and the underfunding of the System. By removing the exemption for the position of President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority, this measure ensures that state employees, regardless of position, contribute to, and benefit from, the Employees' Retirement System.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by making it effective upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1536, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1536, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tam, Sayama, Templo and Matsumoto.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Matsumoto).

Senators DeCoite, Aquino, Kim and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 105 on H.B. No. 1055

The purpose of this measure is to make an emergency appropriation out of the Public Utilities Commission Special Fund for the Public Utilities Commission to contract consultant services for utility dockets.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$700,000 for fiscal year 2024-2025 and clarifying that the appropriation is for the Public Utilities Commission to contract consultant services for utility dockets to assist with the efforts to strengthen the resilience and reliability of electric utility services in the State, including helping review wildfire mitigation plans of regulated public utilities;
- (2) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1055, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1055, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Matayoshi, Takenouchi and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 2. Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, none.

Senators Fukunaga, Wakai, Aquino, Richards and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 106 on H.B. No. 396

The purpose of this measure is to increase the rate of compensation and maximum allowable amounts per case for court-appointed counsel in criminal proceedings.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:+

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$2,890,000 for each fiscal year of the 2025-2027 Fiscal Biennium; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 396, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 396, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Kitagawa, Belatti and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Rhoads, Moriwaki and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 107 on H.B. No. 1091

The purpose of this measure is to require a county to accept, within sixty days after receipt of a completed application for maintenance request, license or dedication of sewer transmission lines and related sewerage facilities servicing Hawaiian Home Lands that are brought into compliance by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1091, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1091, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Kitagawa, Holt, Poepoe and Shimizu.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Holt).

Senators Richards, DeCoite, Chang, Keohokalole and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 108 on H.B. No. 316

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Green Jobs Youth Corps Program.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$2,000,000 for the Green Jobs Youth Corps Program; and
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 316, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 316, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Hashem, Lamosao and Shimizu.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Inouye, Moriwaki, Chang and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 109 on H.B. No. 506

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for equipment, personnel, and other costs of the Oahu Branch of the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Reverting to the H.D. 1 version; and
- (2) Further amending this measure by:
 - (A) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$4,974,040 and allocation amounts for the specified equipment; and
 - (B) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 506, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 506, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Hashem, Lamosao and Shimizu.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Inouye, Moriwaki and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 110 on S.B. No. 693

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the continued implementation of the Food Hub Pilot Program, including the awarding of grants to qualifying food hubs.

Your Committee on Conference finds that food hubs can play an important role in the State's efforts to improve food security and self-sufficiency. This measure supports efforts to encourage the production of more locally grown food, strengthen local supply chains, promote environmental stability, and grow the agricultural economy by providing additional financial assistance to the temporary Food Hub Pilot Program established pursuant to Act 313, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$1,500,000 in general funds for the fiscal biennium; and
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 693, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 693, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kahaloa, Kusch and Matsumoto.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Gabbard, Kanuha, Richards and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 111 on S.B. No. 960

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Human Services to enhance access to, and participation in, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, including establishing additional positions.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) supports over one hundred thirty thousand individuals in the State, helping economically vulnerable households meet their basic nutritional needs without sacrificing their financial security. Your Committee on Conference further finds that the Department of Human Services lacks staffing needed to support the eligibility certification process through document processing, application registration, and other administrative functions integral to operations. This measure provides additional resources to strengthen the SNAP program in the State.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$1,100,000 for each year of the fiscal biennium to strengthen access to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 960, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 960, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Marten, Morikawa, Olds and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators San Buenaventura, Wakai and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 112 on S.B. No. 1186

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a Statewide Interagency Food Systems Coordination Team and an Interagency Food Systems Working Group within the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Your Committee on Conference finds that an efficient and effective sustainable food system is crucial for the long-term resiliency of the State. Your Committee on Conference notes that, because of the complex and interconnected nature of food systems, a coordinated approach that involves state agencies, producers, retailers, non-governmental organizations, and community members is necessary to successfully implement interagency food systems plans and actions to achieve the food systems goals of the State. This measure seeks to help reduce Hawaii's dependence on food imports and ensure food security in the State.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring that the composition of the Interagency Food Systems Working Group consist of members with relevant experience, rather than specifically five members with relevant experience;
- (2) Deleting language that would have appropriated funds for the establishment of certain positions for the Statewide Interagency Food Systems Coordination Team and Interagency Food Systems Working Group;
- (3) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$100,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 for operating costs for the Statewide Interagency Food Systems Coordination Team and Interagency Food Systems Working Group;
- (4) Deleting language that would have appropriated funds for fiscal year 2026-2027 for operating costs for the Statewide Interagency Food Systems Coordination Team and Interagency Food Systems Working Group;
- (5) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1186, S.D. 2, H.D. 3, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1186, S.D. 2, H.D. 3, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kahaloa, Ilagan, Kusch and Matsumoto.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Matsumoto).

Senators Gabbard, DeCoite, Rhoads and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 113 on S.B. No. 447

The purpose of this measure is to establish a Hiring Pilot Program within the Department of Health for recruitments initiated before July 1, 2028, to include an amended hiring procedure for delegated position classifications, certain flexibilities regarding minimum qualifications for positions having a salary range at or below SR-10, the ability to directly hire certain individuals into a civil service position if certain conditions are met, and the authority to make certain temporary appointments at the merited civil service pay scale without step limitation.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the Department of Health's current vacancy rate is at 29.8 percent, totaling one thousand forty-six open positions, revealing a severe staffing shortage that impedes the State's ability to quickly assess public health issues, develop effective public health policy, and instill confidence in residents regarding the State's ability to protect their health and well-being. Your Committee on Conference further finds that granting the Director of Health express authority over certain human resources matters would allow the Department of Health to retain staff and address public health issues more expeditiously. This measure increases the efficiency of the Department of Health's hiring process by requiring the delegation of certain human resources services from the Department of Human Resources Development to the Department of Health until June 30, 2028.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 447, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 447, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Sayama, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Olds and Alcos.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

Senators San Buenaventura, Aquino, Moriwaki and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 114 on S.B. No. 1422

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal the requirement that a portion of the fees collected for certified copies of birth, marriage, divorce, or death certificates issued by the Department of Health be deposited to the credit of the general fund;
- (2) Repeal the Birth Defects Special Fund; and
- (3) Require a portion of the fees collected for issuance of marriage licenses to be deposited into the Vital Statistics Improvement Special Fund.

Your Committee on Conference finds that in the Office of the Auditor's Report No. 21-03, *Review of Special Funds, Revolving Funds, Trust Funds, and Trust Accounts of the Department of Health*, 2021, the Auditor found that the Birth Defects Special Fund did not meet the criteria of a special fund, in part because there was no clear link between the birth defects program and marriage license fees, and therefore recommended its repeal. Your Committee on Conference further finds that there is a need to overhaul the Department's vital statistics business functions, especially as there has been lengthy backlogs in customer requests due to a decades-old, unreliable computer system that drives a sub-optimal manual workflow, as well as overall increases in customer orders. Accordingly, this measure redirects the deposits of marriage license fees from the Birth Defects Special Fund into the Vital Statistics Special Fund to provide a more reliable stream of resources to offset costs for the daily operations of the vital statistics systems and to rectify the Auditor's concerns regarding the Birth Defects Special Fund.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have appropriated funds out of the Vital Statistics Improvement Special Fund for the operations of the Vital Statistics Program, including the operations of the Office of Health Status Monitoring of the Department of Health;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1422, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1422, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Keohokapu-Lee Loy and Garcia.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators San Buenaventura, Inouye, Hashimoto and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 115 on S.B. No. 1300

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, expand free school meal coverage to students who currently qualify for reduced-price lunch;
- (2) Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, expand free school meal coverage to students whose family income is no more than three hundred per cent of the federal poverty level; and

(3) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee on Conference finds that healthy, nutritious school breakfasts and lunches allow students at Department of Education schools to remain focused in school. In fact, for some students, meals served during the school day may be the only meals those students eat each day. While the Department of Education offers free and reduced price meals to certain eligible students, students whose families are asset limited, income restrained, employed (ALICE) face additional hardships as they are ineligible for this benefit, but still struggle to afford basic necessities. Expanding food security to more students will alleviate financial burdens for certain working families, thereby ensuring students receive a complete meal each school day. As educating Hawaii's youth is of paramount importance to the future and economic success of the State, providing greater access to school meals will allow more students to concentrate on their academic growth and future life goals.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$565,000 in general revenues for the fiscal biennium for meal subsidies for students eligible for reduced-price meals;
- (2) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$2,800,000 in general revenues for fiscal year 2026-2027 for meal subsidies for students whose family income is not more than three hundred percent of the federal poverty level;
- (3) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1300, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1300, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Woodson, Morikawa, Amato, La Chica and Souza.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Kidani, Inouye, Kanuha and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 116 on S.B. No. 1304

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds out of the Pesticide Use Revolving Fund to the Department of Agriculture to continue the Statewide pesticide drift monitoring study.

Your Committee on Conference finds that additional funding is necessary for the Department of Agriculture to continue its study on pesticide drift from applications occurring near schools. This measure supports the timely collection of accurate data to determine whether and how Hawaii's children are impacted by off-target pesticide drift.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have required the Department of Agriculture to contract with an independent consultant to conduct the study;
- (2) Inserting the following appropriation amounts for the Department of Agriculture to continue the statewide pesticide drift monitoring study:
 - (A) \$323,484 for fiscal year 2025-2026; and
 - (B) \$311,903 for fiscal year 2026-2027;
- (3) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1304, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1304, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kahaloa, Kusch, Perruso, Quinlan and Matsumoto.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Gabbard, DeCoite, Rhoads and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 117 on S.B. No. 1502

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the University of Hawaii for the establishment of faculty positions, student programs, and other expenses at the College of Social Sciences at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and the Business Administration Program at the University of Hawaii West Oahu for workforce development to support the defense sector of the State's economy.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the defense industry is a critical economic driver for the State that provides lucrative jobs for the State's local economy. Your Committee on Conference further finds that there is a growing demand for jobs in defense-related fields and to meet this demand, the State should leverage the expertise offered at the University of Hawaii. This measure invests in the College of Social Sciences at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and the Business Administration Program at the University of Hawaii West Oahu to develop a skilled local workforce in the defense sector of the State's economy.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have appropriated funds to establish positions in the College of Social Science at the University of Hawaii at Manoa for workforce development in the defense sector;

- (2) Deleting language that would have appropriated funds for student housing, travel costs, material supplies, and operation of the Academy for Hawaii Intelligence Studies Summer Program at the College of Social Sciences at the University of Hawaii at Manoa to develop a pipeline of talented students for workforce development in the defense sector;
- (3) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$195,000 for each year of the fiscal biennium for the establishment of the following positions:
 - (A) One half-time equivalent (0.5 FTE) faculty for the Director of the Cybersecurity Coordination Center; and
 - (B) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) faculty for the Director of the Cybersecurity Research Laboratory,
 for the Business Administration Program at the University of Hawaii West Oahu for workforce development in the defense sector; and
- (4) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$270,000 for student internship programs, certification, software, and other related expenses for the Business Administration Program at the University of Hawaii West Oahu for workforce development in the defense sector of the State's economy; provided that federal funding is lost;
- (5) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose;
- (6) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1502, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1502, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Garrett, Holt, Amato, Lamosao and Souza.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Lamosao).

Senators Kim, Hashimoto and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 118 on S.B. No. 583

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow the naming rights of the Stadium and Convention Center to be leased to any public or private entity; and
- (2) Require any revenues derived from advertising or marketing in or on the Stadium or Convention Center to be deposited into the appropriate special fund of the facility.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the cost to maintain and operate the Convention Center and new Aloha Stadium will place a significant financial burden on taxpayers and the State. This measure will allow public or private entities to lease naming rights for these facilities to provide additional funding sources to operate and maintain these facilities and alleviate the burden on taxpayers and the State.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language that authorizes the display of the name of any entity that leased the naming rights to a stadium operated by the Stadium Authority on the exterior of the stadium;
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 583, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 583, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Lee, M. and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

Senators DeCoite, McKelvey, Wakai and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 119 on S.B. No. 65

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority for the rehabilitation, remodeling, renovation, and repair of housing units.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) has a mission to provide safe, secure housing to the State's most vulnerable populations, including low-income individuals and families, seniors, and individuals with disabilities. While HPHA supports many residents statewide, existing properties require extensive capital improvements to ensure safety and sanitation requirements are met. As HPHA relies on federal funding for most of its operations, which is commensurate with unit occupancy, rehabilitation of vacant units is of paramount importance to maintaining a stable source of funding. Therefore, this measure ensures continuity of HPHA operations and the provision of reliable housing for the residents it serves.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$10,000,000 in general funds for the fiscal biennium for the Hawaii Public Housing Authority to rehabilitate, remodel, renovate, and repair housing units; and
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 65, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 65, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Evslin, Miyake and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

Senators Chang, Hashimoto, Kanuha and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 120 on S.B. No. 264

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the amount of compensation for private-sector examiners who evaluate a criminal defendant's fitness to proceed or penal responsibility in a legal case; and
- (2) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the existing fee structure for the compensation for court-appointed forensic examiners providing services to the Judiciary has made it challenging to recruit and retain professionals with the necessary expertise. This measure will ensure that the State is able to maintain a pool of qualified and available examiners capable and willing to provide essential services for documenting and reporting their findings to the court.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$975,000 for the Judiciary to compensate private-sector examiners who evaluate a criminal defendant's fitness to proceed or penal responsibility in a legal case; and
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 264, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 264, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Kitagawa, Belatti and Shimizu.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Rhoads, Aquino and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 121 on S.B. No. 304

The purpose of this measure is to enable the Adult Client Services Branch to move toward the recommended national best practice standards for community supervision by establishing positions and appropriating funds for the Adult Client Services Branch of the First Circuit.

Your Committee on Conference finds that in 2024, the American Probation and Parole Association published national standards for community supervision. However, due to probation officers in the First Circuit supervising diverse caseloads which are comprised of multiple types of cases that include intensive risk to administrative risk cases, these standards are unattainable with existing staffing at the Adult Client Services Branch. This measure will enable the Adult Client Services Branch to move toward the recommended national best practice standards for community supervision.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$739,440 for the fiscal biennium to establish permanent positions in the Adult Client Services Branch of the First Circuit, including:
 - (A) \$73,836 each for eight full-time equivalent (8.0 FTE) probation officer positions;
 - (B) \$50,880 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) social worker position; and
 - (C) \$48,936 each for two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) clerk positions;
- (2) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$140,000 for the fiscal biennium for operating expenses for the Adult Client Services Branch of the First Circuit;
- (3) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 304, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 304, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Kitagawa, Belatti and Shimizu.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Rhoads, Inouye and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 122 on S.B. No. 428

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend the fees paid to witnesses in civil and criminal trials;
- (2) Change the fees paid for travel expenses from 20 cents a mile to the mileage allowance prescribed by the Administrator of General Services; and
- (3) Authorize reimbursement to witnesses in civil trials for use of common carriers.

Your Committee on Conference finds that witnesses are crucial for the justice system to properly function. This measure acknowledges the critical role witnesses play in the administration of justice and will help to offset the time away from work and family that witnesses spend participating in judicial proceedings.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the fees paid to witnesses for their attendance in civil trials from an unspecified amount to:
 - (A) \$30 for each day's attendance in court; and
 - (B) \$36 for each day's attendance in court for each witness coming from any island other than that upon which the court is holding session;
- (2) Changing the fees paid to witnesses for their attendance in criminal trials from an unspecified amount to \$40 for each day's attendance in court;
- (3) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose; and
- (4) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 428, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 428, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Kitagawa and Shimizu.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Rhoads, Kanuha and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 123 on S.B. No. 1469

The purpose of this measure is to suspend the statute of limitations on collections of income tax, general excise tax, transient accommodations tax; use tax; fuel tax; conveyance tax; and rental motor vehicle, tour vehicle, and car-sharing vehicle surcharge tax during the period an assessment is pending on appeal before the Taxation Board of Review or Tax Appeal Court.

Your Committee on Conference finds that due to a backlog of cases pending in the Taxation Board of Review and Tax Appeal Court, the fifteen-year statute of limitations on certain collection activities has expired or will soon expire for some assessments currently pending on appeal. Because taxpayers currently are not required to pay an assessed tax to file a tax appeal with the Taxation Board of Review or Tax Appeal Court, and because collection activities are stayed during the pendency of those appeals, decisions and court judgments filed after the statute of limitations expires risk being uncollectible. This measure will extend the collection window during the time an appeal is pending to prevent taxpayers from "running out the clock" on collections by appealing their debts.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by making it effective upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1469, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1469, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Kitagawa and Shimizu.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Rhoads, Kanuha and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 124 on S.B. No. 572

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Add loan funds administered by certified Nonprofit Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) for certain for-sale affordable housing projects to the list of loan priorities for the Affordable Homeownership Revolving Fund; and
- (2) Expand the use of moneys in the revolving fund to allow financing as matching funds for CDFIs to mobilize other funding sources.

Your Committee on Conference finds that financing for housing development in the State remains access to a significant barrier to increasing the supply of affordable housing. CDFIs use public funds to attract private capital with the goal of increasing affordable housing and economic development in the community. This measure will enable CDFIs to access additional capital, thereby increasing the resources available for affordable for-sale housing projects.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by making it effective upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 572, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 572, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Evslin, Miyake and Muraoka.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Chang, Hashimoto, Kanuha and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 125 on S.B. No. 576

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend the required contents of legislative reports to be submitted by the Hawaii Public Housing Authority and Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; and
- (2) Amend the scope of moneys to be deposited into, and the allowable uses of moneys expended from, the Public Housing Special Fund.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) and Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) have similar missions to provide the State's residents with safe, secure housing. Presently, HPHA and HHFDC are required to submit annual reports to the Legislature. However, existing reporting requirements do not fully capture the scope of activities undertaken by HHFDC and HPHA. This measure will therefore expand the required contents of the reports submitted to the Legislature to promote transparency and accountability.

Your Committee on Conference further finds that the Public Housing Special Fund was established to support long-term and special projects by HPHA. The special fund, however, does not have regular revenue streams like other funds administered by HHFDC. This measure will allow repayments into the Public Housing Special Fund from completed projects, thereby making available additional funds for critical development and redevelopment activities to lower costs, support sustainability of the fund, and increase housing supply in the State.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by changing its effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 576, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 576, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Evslin, Miyake and Muraoka.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Chang, Hashimoto, Kanuha and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 126 on S.B. No. 1221

The purpose of this measure is to require each county to:

- (1) Adopt ordinances regulating certain retention ponds and detention ponds; and
- (2) Conduct a survey of existing retention and detention ponds and submit a report to the Legislature prior to the Regular Session of 2026.

Your Committee on Conference finds that retention and detention ponds, while essential for stormwater management, pose serious risks to public health and safety due to their potential for sudden water level changes and deep standing water. Your Committee on Conference notes that the State has no existing laws governing the maintenance of detention and retention ponds. This measure seeks to prevent tragedies like the untimely death of Charlotte "Sharkey" Schaefer, a five-year-old girl who drowned in a detention pond while trying to save the life of her friend, by requiring the counties to adopt regulations on the construction and permitting of retention and detention ponds, including the establishment of minimum safety standards.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Designating the statutory language that requires each county to adopt ordinances regulating certain retention ponds and detention ponds as "Sharkey's Law";
- (2) Specifying that each county shall adopt ordinances regulating certain retention ponds and detention ponds beginning January 1, 2027;
- (3) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1221, S.D. 2, H.D. 3, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1221, S.D. 2, H.D. 3, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Hashem, Tarnas, Lamosao and Shimizu.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Tarnas).

Senators Wakai, Hashimoto, Kanuha and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 127 on S.B. No. 933

The purpose of this measure is to facilitate funding for services provided by the nonprofit sector.

Specifically, the measure:

- (1) Appropriates moneys to award grants for fiscal year 2025-2026; and

- (2) Subjects recipient organizations to certain requirements, including legislative reporting requirements.

Your Committee on Conference recognizes the potentially dire impact that the federal funding freeze imposed by the United States Office of Management and Budget may have on numerous nonprofit organizations in the State that provide critical assistance in health and human services. Your Committee believes that state policymakers must take the initiative to avert such an impact by providing sufficient state funding to make up for any federal funding shortfalls.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by restructuring its contents and:

- (1) Appropriating \$50,000,000 to the Office of Community Services of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for the award of grants in accordance with substantially all the requirements of Chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for fiscal year 2025-2026;
- (2) Establishing an evaluation and selection committee to oversee the awarding of grants;
- (3) Authorizing the Office of Community Services to contract the services of Aloha United Way, Inc., to assist with the administration and distribution of grant awards;
- (4) Appropriating \$140,000 to the Office of Community Services to carry out its responsibilities under this measure; and
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 933, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 933, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Yamashita, Holt and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Hashimoto, Aquino and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Aquino).

Conf. Com. Rep. 128 on H.B. No. 774

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Food and Product Innovation Network within the Agribusiness Development Corporation to enable businesses to scale up new products from research and development to manufacturing and commercialization; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to implement the Food and Product Innovation Network, including for staff and other operating expenses.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the Food and Product Innovation Network (Network) shall operate under a centralized coordination structure administered by the Agribusiness Development Corporation;
- (2) Expanding Hawaii-related branding to include "Hawaii made";
- (3) Clarifying provisions related to the inclusion of future facilities and additional facilities on Oahu, as partner members of the Network;
- (4) Expanding the requirements of the Network to include establishing pathways for greater opportunities, facilitating various partnerships, and engaging with national and international partners;
- (5) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$385,289 for the Department of Health for the Network, including \$172,884 for two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) positions and \$212,405 for other operating expenses;
- (6) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 774, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 774, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kahaloa, Ilagan, Kusch, Quinlan and Matsumoto.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

Senators DeCoite, Gabbard, Wakai and Fukunaga.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fukunaga).

Conf. Com. Rep. 129 on H.B. No. 650

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for fiscal years 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to provide education and support to local businesses regarding the United States Food and Drug Administration's guidance on colored sea salt.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$300,000 and removing the appropriation for fiscal year 2026-2027;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 650, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 650, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Ilagan, Hussey, Hashem, Templo and Matsumoto.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators DeCoite, Wakai, Fukunaga and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fukunaga).

Conf. Com. Rep. 130 on H.B. No. 1406

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for the Intergovernmental Task Force for Permit Simplification to identify actions taken, challenges encountered, and legislative measures necessary to facilitate, expedite, and coordinate state and intergovernmental development permit processes.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the name of the Task Force to the Simplifying Permitting for Enhanced Economic Development (SPEED) Task Force;
- (2) Adding a representative from the State Building Code Council of the Department of Accounting and General Services to the Task Force;
- (3) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$100,000 for the staffing and administrative costs of the Task Force;
- (4) Changing the expending agency from the House of Representatives to the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1406, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1406, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Ilagan, Hussey and Matsumoto.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Wakai, Kim and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 131 on H.B. No. 341

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist the Hawai'i Island Community Health Center purchase or lease of land on the island of Hawaii to develop primary care health care facilities.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the special purpose revenue bond authorization from an unspecified amount to \$80,000,000;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 341, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 341, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Keohokapu-Loy and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators San Buenaventura, Kanuha and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 132 on H.B. No. 990

The purpose of this measure is to satisfy several claims against the State, its officers, or its employees.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Appropriating:
 - (A) \$69,113.33 in general funds for a claim by Gilbert Collins;
 - (B) \$166,492.00 in general funds for a claim by National Commerce Bank Service;
 - (C) \$50,210.67 in general funds for a claim by Olinda Country Estates, Inc.;
 - (D) \$22,674.17 in general funds for a claim by Sofia Lerman Estate;
 - (E) \$100,000.00 in general funds for a settlement in the case of Donna Oplento v. State of Hawaii Department of Public Safety;
 - (F) \$100,000.00 in general funds for a settlement in the case of D.O. v. State of Hawaii, Department of Education;

- (G) \$140,000.00 in general funds for a settlement in the case of Leonard Ramboyon v. Esther Kanehailua;
- (H) \$50,000.00 in general funds for a settlement in the case of Jon R. Chung v. State of Hawaii;
- (I) \$298,000.00 in general funds for a settlement in the tort claim by Kamaka Air, LLC;
- (J) \$512,700.83 in general funds for a judgment in the case of John Roe No. 121 v. State of Hawaii;
- (K) \$115,000.00 in general funds for a settlement in the case of Anela Aplaca v. State of Hawaii;
- (L) \$125,000.00 in general funds for a settlement in the case of Stacy J. Bruhn v. State of Hawaii;
- (M) \$26,771.00 in general funds for a judgment in the case of Healoha Carmichael v. Board of Land and Natural Resources;
- (N) \$18,000.00 in general funds for a settlement in the case of Kona Mike's Surf Adventures, LLC v. Dawn N.S. Chang; and
- (O) \$70,000.00 out of the state highway fund for a settlement in the case of Susanna Sigal v. State of Hawaii;
- (2) Amending the amount and percentage of exceedance of the appropriations over the general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025;
- (3) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 990, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 990, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Kitagawa and Shimizu.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Rhoads, Moriwaki and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 133 on H.B. No. 97

The purpose of this measure is to establish a new regulatory framework for the sale of travel insurance in the State, including licensing and registration requirements for limited lines travel insurance producers and travel retailers, respectively.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to upon its approval; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 97, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 97, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tam, Matayoshi, Templo and Matsumoto.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Matsumoto).

Senators DeCoite, Fukunaga and Keohokalole.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 134 on S.B. No. 383

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the minimum amount for purchases constituting small purchase procurements that are subject to an electronic system from \$25,000 to \$50,000; and
- (2) Require a report to the Legislature.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the costs of goods have increased significantly since the threshold for small purchase procurements that are subject to an electronic system was originally set. Due to inflation and higher costs, more small purchases than the Legislature originally intended are now required to adhere to the electronic procurement system. Your Committee on Conference further finds that the requirements of the electronic system may be arduous and overly time-consuming during disaster recovery efforts, which are increasingly common and often require expedient small purchase procurements. Therefore, this measure raises the minimum threshold for small purchase procurements that are subject to an electronic system to align with increased costs and facilitate more efficient disaster recovery efforts.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 383, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 383, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takenouchi, Morikawa and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators McKelvey, Aquino, Hashimoto and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Hashimoto).

Conf. Com. Rep. 135 on S.B. No. 465

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to conduct a study of the carrying capacity of Kikiaola Small Boat Harbor and its surrounding area in the County of Kauai;
- (2) Require a report to the Legislature; and
- (3) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee on Conference finds that Kikiaola Small Boat Harbor is experiencing an increase in boating activities, reducing water quality in the harbor and the surrounding waters. This measure will ensure that Kikiaola Small Boat Harbor remains a safe and functional space for boaters, fishermen, and members of the community by requiring the Department of Land and Natural Resources to conduct a carrying capacity study of the harbor.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$250,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 for the Department of Natural Resources to conduct a carrying capacity study of Kikiaola Small Boat Harbor; and
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 465, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 465, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Hashem, Morikawa, Lamosao and Souza.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Inouye, Wakai and DeCorte.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 136 on S.B. No. 479

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal language that gives the Director of Finance discretion to use moneys in the Hawaii ABLE Savings Program Trust Fund if the Director elects to accept deposits from contributors instead of sending deposits directly to the ABLE Program Manager; and
- (2) Authorize the Director of Finance to expend moneys in the Hawaii ABLE Savings Program Trust Fund to provide incentive payments to ABLE account owners; and
- (3) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the Hawaii ABLE Savings Program was established to enable individuals with disabilities and their families to save funds in a tax-exempt savings program, allowing individuals with disabilities the same types of flexible savings accounts that people without disabilities have, such as college savings accounts, health savings accounts, and individual retirement accounts. Your Committee on Conference further finds that an ABLE savings account would enable individuals with a disability to save money to pay for necessary expenses, such as medical and dental care, education, community-based supports, employment training, assistive technology, housing, and transportation without the fear of losing crucial benefits, such as Medicaid, providing both financial security and peace of mind. This measure increases awareness and incentives to participate in the Hawaii ABLE Savings Program, ensuring that people with disabilities are fully informed about the opportunities available to them.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$75,000 out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii for each year of the fiscal biennium to be deposited into the Hawaii ABLE Savings Program Trust Fund;
- (2) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$13,000 out of the Hawaii ABLE Savings Program Trust Fund for each year of the fiscal biennium to be expended by the Department of Budget and Finance to provide incentive payments to ABLE account owners;
- (3) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$62,000 out of the Hawaii ABLE Savings Program Trust Fund for each year of the fiscal biennium to be expended by the Department of Health to establish one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent position within the State Council on Developmental Disabilities to provide statewide outreach, advocacy, and relationship management for the Hawaii ABLE Savings Program; and
- (4) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 479, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 479, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Keohokapu-Lee Loy and Garcia.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators San Buenaventura, Aquino, Hashimoto and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Hashimoto).

Conf. Com. Rep. 137 on H.B. No. 718

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine for:

- (1) Faculty positions in the fields of cardiovascular biology, tropical medicine, and quantitative health biostatistics; and
- (2) An environmental health and safety officer staff position.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$763,000 to fund:
 - (A) Three full-time equivalent (3.0 FTE) faculty positions: one position each in the fields of cardiovascular biology, tropical medicine, and quantitative health biostatistics; and
 - (B) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) environmental health and safety officer staff position; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 718, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 718, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Garrett, Holt, Miyake, Sayama and Souza.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Sayama, Souza).

Senators Kim, Kanuha and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 138 on H.B. No. 1169

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the University of Hawaii Conference Center Revolving Fund to facilitate the administration of the revolving fund for conference center programs among various campuses and operating units of the University of Hawaii System;
- (2) Repeal the Conference Center Revolving Fund for the University of Hawaii at Hilo and the Community College Conference Center Revolving Fund;
- (3) Lapse all appropriations and encumbrances of the Conference Center Revolving Fund for the University of Hawaii at Hilo and the Community College Conference Center Revolving Fund to the University of Hawaii Conference Center Revolving Fund; and
- (4) Appropriate funds out of the University of Hawaii Conference Center Revolving Fund.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the appropriation; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1169, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1169, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Garrett, Holt, Amato and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Kim, Hashimoto and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 139 on H.B. No. 1170

The purpose of this measure is to require the University of Hawaii to grant the resident tuition fee for enrollment at any University of Hawaii campus to individuals who have graduated from a Hawaii high school and are enrolling in an undergraduate degree program, under certain conditions.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that an adult or minor student who graduated from a high school in the State within two years, rather than four years, preceding the student's first day of officially scheduled instruction at a University of Hawaii campus shall qualify for the resident tuition fee;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1170, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1170, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Garrett, Holt, Amato and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Kim, Hashimoto and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 140 on H.B. No. 1171

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Board of Regents to use funds from the University of Hawaii Tuition and Fees Special Fund for student aid in direct response to an emergency or disaster, as declared by the Governor.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the annual expenditure cap from the University of Hawaii Tuition and Fees Special Fund for providing student aid in direct response to an emergency or disaster to \$3,000,000; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1171, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1171, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Garrett, Holt, Amato and Muraoka.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Kim, Hashimoto and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 141 on H.B. No. 1300

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the University of Hawaii Cancer Center to conduct a multiethnic cohort study focusing on the social determinants of health, lifestyles, environmental exposures, and resilience factors of Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, and Filipinos, including an analysis of the health effects and risks of individuals living in close proximity to landfills in Nanakuli, Oahu.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$500,000 to conduct the multiethnic cohort study;
- (2) Deleting language that would have required the appropriated funds to be matched by federal funds on a dollar-for-dollar basis before expenditure;
- (3) Requiring the University of Hawaii Cancer Center to seek other sources of funding to complete the multiethnic cohort study;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1300, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1300, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Garrett, Keohokapu-Lee Loy and Alcos.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Kim, Hashimoto and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 142 on S.B. No. 336

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the State to defend professionally licensed or certified state employees from civil actions or proceedings, under certain circumstances;
- (2) Clarify that the employee may employ their own attorney at the employee's own expense; and
- (3) Establish a process for the Attorney General to transfer or withdraw representation if the Attorney General declines to defend the employee.

Your Committee on Conference finds that professionally licensed or certified state employees require additional protections from liability to take effective, efficient action while exercising their professional judgement in their capacity as public employees. While existing law sets forth the personal liability requirements for these employees, it lacks clarity regarding the circumstances under which the State has a duty to defend them and the conditions and procedures under which the Attorney General may confidentially withdraw representation of the employee. Therefore, this measure establishes a transparent legal representation framework to support public service professionals.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 336, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 336, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Kitagawa and Shimizu.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Aquino, Rhoads, Kanuha and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 143 on S.B. No. 742

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Data Sharing and Governance Working Group within the Office of Enterprise Technology Services;
- (2) Require a report to the Legislature; and
- (3) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee on Conference finds that siloing data in separate state agencies has created knowledge gaps that limit the State's ability to address the affordability crisis, workforce development, and other issues facing its residents. Increased data-sharing and collaboration between state departments and agencies would enable informed, evidence-based decision-making, facilitating superior policy outcomes. Therefore, this measure establishes a Data Sharing and Governance Working Group to develop recommendations to improve data-sharing within the state government.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the Working Group shall review the adequacy of departmental data sharing and the data task force in addressing the State's data-sharing capabilities, rather than data-sharing needs;
- (2) Designating the Chief Information Officer, rather than the Chief Data Officer, to serve as the chairperson of the Working Group;
- (3) Requiring the Working Group to submit a report to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2027, rather than the Regular Session of 2026;
- (4) Mandating the Working Group to cease to exist on June 30, 2027, rather than June 30, 2026;
- (5) Deleting language that would have appropriated funds to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services for the Working Group;
- (6) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose;
- (7) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 742, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 742, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Ilagan, Hussey and Matsumoto.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Aquino, Lee, C. and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 144 on S.B. No. 855

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify the definition of "covered employer" under the Hawaii Retirement Savings Act;
- (2) Require covered employers to automatically enroll covered employees into the Hawaii Retirement Savings Program unless the employee opts out;
- (3) Repeal the limit on the total fees and expenses that can be spent for the Program each year; and
- (4) Appropriate funds to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for the development and operation of the Program.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the Hawaii Retirement Savings Program will offer a critical retirement planning option to many private-sector employees in the State. Your Committee on Conference further finds, however, that the Program's use of an opt-in enrollment model will hinder its ability to accumulate a critical mass of participants, risk its long-term viability, and limit the potential for the State to enter into cost-cutting interstate compact agreements. Therefore, this measure implements an automatic enrollment model to align the Program with best practices in the retirement savings industry and provide for the long-term financial security of private sector employees.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have appropriated funds to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for the development and operation of the Hawaii Retirement Savings Program;
- (2) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose; and
- (3) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 855, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 855, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Lee, M. and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.
 Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Aquino, Inouye and Fevella.
 Managers on the part of the Senate.
 Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 145 on S.B. No. 1065

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit the State or any of its departments, agencies, or political subdivisions from requiring a bachelor's degree as a condition of eligibility for hire to a position in state or county employment; and
- (2) Establish exemptions.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the State currently faces a severe public service staffing shortage. Your Committee on Conference further finds that many state positions utilize degree requirements to screen candidates, despite mounting evidence in support of the efficacy of skills-based hiring. For many public service positions, degree requirements exacerbate staffing shortages by excluding valuable potential candidates with applicable skills and experience. Therefore, this measure requires a shift to skills-based hiring, with certain exceptions, to modernize state hiring practices and diversify the workforce.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1065, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1065, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Lee, M. and Reyes Oda.
 Managers on the part of the House.
 Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Aquino, McKelvey, Lee, C. and Fevella.
 Managers on the part of the Senate.
 Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 146 on S.B. No. 1491

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Add the Department of Taxation and Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to the list of state agencies required to share data and determine the data to be shared through the Statewide Longitudinal Data System; and
- (2) Require data shared by the Department of Taxation or Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to be aggregated or anonymized.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the Statewide Longitudinal Data System collects and analyzes data from state agencies to support policies for improved outcomes throughout the early education to workforce pipeline. Your Committee on Conference further finds, however, that the System suffers critical knowledge gaps relating to certain segments of the State's workforce, such as the self-employed. Therefore, this measure enhances the System by including data from the Department of Taxation and Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to support better research and evaluation efforts.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1491, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1491, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Lee, M. and Reyes Oda.
 Managers on the part of the House.
 Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Aquino, Moriwaki and Fevella.
 Managers on the part of the Senate.
 Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 147 on S.B. No. 1567

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Human Resources Development to complete a comprehensive review of the classification and compensation systems for civil service positions under the jurisdiction of the Department of Human Resources Development;
- (2) Allow the Department to contract with a third party, in accordance with the Hawaii Public Procurement Code, to assist with the timely completion of the review;
- (3) Require reports to the Legislature; and

(4) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee on Conference finds that many state agencies are experiencing staffing shortages which hinder the delivery of critical public services, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Med-QUEST, and unemployment benefits. Your Committee on Conference further finds that high vacancy rates are exacerbated by outdated classification and compensation systems for state employee positions, which impede state hiring efforts. Therefore, this measure will reassess the qualifications and compensation packages for certain positions to improve retention and recruitment of qualified candidates to public service.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the Department of Human Resources Development shall complete the comprehensive review of the classification and compensation systems for all civil service positions that are under its jurisdiction by October 31, 2026;
- (2) Requiring the Department of Human Resources Development to submit its preliminary report to the Legislature by February 28, 2026, rather than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2026;
- (3) Deleting language that would have appropriated funds to the Department of Human Resources Development to conduct and complete a comprehensive review of the classification and compensation systems for civil service positions under its jurisdiction;
- (4) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose;
- (5) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1567, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1567, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Lee, M. and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Aquino, Moriwaki and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 148 on S.B. No. 1367

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Make clarifying amendments to the laws governing installment loans by:
 - (A) Replacing defined terms for consistency throughout the installment loan chapter;
 - (B) Requiring lenders to prorate maintenance fees on a daily basis;
 - (C) Allowing lenders to charge a \$1 convenience fee for debit card payments;
 - (D) Requiring paper receipts only for cash or in-person payments and removing the requirement that written receipts contain the consumer's name; and
 - (E) Repealing the three-day waiting period between installment loans; and
- (2) Sunset on June 30, 2028.

Your Committee on Conference finds that existing law has enabled installment lenders writing loan contracts to fully capture the maximum monthly maintenance fees even if the lender provides service for only a portion of the month. This measure requires lenders to prorate the monthly maintenance fees daily.

Your Committee on Conference further finds that existing law also requires lenders to wait three days after a consumer has fully repaid a previous installment loan before issuing a new one. Although the original intent of the three-day waiting period was to prevent borrowers from falling into a continuous cycle of debt by repaying the loan and borrowing again on the same day, unlike payday loans, installment loans are gradually paid down through a series of payments. Repealing the three-day waiting period will allow consumers on the neighbor islands, which only have access to one or two lenders, to have more access to financial services.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025;
- (2) Extending the sunset date to June 30, 2030; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1367, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1367, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Matayoshi, Takenouchi and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Fukunaga, Richards and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 149 on H.B. No. 1370

The purpose of this measure is to amend the definition of "draft beer" as used in liquor tax laws to mean beer in an individual container of five gallons or more.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to January 1, 2026; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1370, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1370, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Ilagan, Matayoshi, Takenouchi, Chun, Holt and Matsumoto.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Keohokalole, Wakai and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 150 on H.B. No. 505

The purpose of this measure is to establish:

- (1) A Red Hill Water Alliance Initiative (WAI) policy coordinator to coordinate WAI initiatives across state and county agencies and appropriate federal entities; and
- (2) The Red Hill Remediation Special Fund.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the definition of "Red Hill Water Alliance Initiative" to include the Deputy for Water Resource Management among the individuals in the group;
- (2) Authorizing the Red Hill Remediation Special Fund to receive appropriations from any source, including the United States government, Legislature, and City and County of Honolulu; and
- (3) Changing its effective date to upon approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 505, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 505, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Hashem, Lowen, Lamosao and Shimizu.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Lowen).

Senators Inouye, Gabbard, Kim, Elefante and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (DeCorte).

Conf. Com. Rep. 151 on H.B. No. 1316

The purpose of this measure is to require, beginning on January 1, 2026:

- (1) The registration and numbering of rental vessels before they are rented or leased, or offered for rent or lease, to the public for transiting the navigable waters of a state park; and
- (2) The registration fees to be deposited into the State Parks Special Fund.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by changing the effective date to upon approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1316, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1316, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Hashem, Chun, Lamosao and Souza.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Inouye, Moriwaki, Keohokalole and Elefante.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Keohokalole).

Conf. Com. Rep. 152 on H.B. No. 1220

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to support the efforts of the Division of Aquatic Resources of the Department of Land and Natural Resources in the removal of the majano anemone from Kaneohe Bay.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$200,000 for the removal of majano anemone from Kaneohe Bay; and
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1220, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1220, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Hashem, Lee, M., Kahaloa and Shimizu.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kahaloa).

Senators Inouye, Gabbard, Lee, C. and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Gabbard).

Conf. Com. Rep. 153 on H.B. No. 133

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Education to support the establishment of surfing as an interscholastic sport.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$685,870; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 133, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 133, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kapela, La Chica, Grandinetti, Olds and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Kidani, Kim, Kanuha and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 154 on H.B. No. 1378

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (Foundation) to acquire and own property;
- (2) Establish the Performing Arts Grants Program and Performing Arts Grants Special Fund to support performing arts in the State;
- (3) Include the coordination, planning, promotion, marketing, and execution of performing arts events in the scope of the Foundation's responsibilities;
- (4) Amend the funding sources for the State Art Museum;
- (5) Amend the amounts required to be transferred by agencies into the Works of Art Special Fund and the allowable uses of the Special Fund; and
- (6) Appropriate funds for positions and cost items of the Foundation and to provide grants under the Performing Arts Grants Program.

Your Committee on Conference, after thoughtful deliberation and with the intent to promote clarity and financial stability and ensure that the Foundation can continue to support and enrich arts and cultural programs across Hawaii for generations to come, has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the preamble to reflect its amended purpose;
- (2) Deleting language that authorizes the Foundation to acquire and own property;
- (3) Amending the calculation of the one percent to be transferred to the Works of Art Special Fund and including an annual transfer amount to the Works of Art Special Fund, facilitated by an appropriation by the Legislature;
- (4) Deleting the appropriation for positions and cost items for the Foundation for fiscal year 2026-2027, adding cost items, and changing various numbers of positions and appropriation amounts;
- (5) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$300,000 to provide grants under the Performing Arts Grants Program;
- (6) Inserting an appropriation of \$1,000 out of general obligation bond funds for the annual transfer amount;
- (7) Changing the effective date to upon approval; provided that the appropriations take effect on July 1, 2025; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1378, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1378, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kapela, Takenouchi, Ichiyama, Lee, M. and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Reyes Oda).

Senators Lee, C., Hashimoto and Kanuha.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 155 on H.B. No. 1179

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a statutory framework for the licensure of rural emergency hospitals at the state level by the Department of Health; and
- (2) Provide for the continuation of Medicaid policy protections for hospitals transitioning to a rural emergency hospital designation.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language relating to Medicaid payments to rural emergency hospitals, including payment for telehealth services and payments made out of state matching funds as part of the federal Medical Rural Hospital Flexibility Program;
- (2) Changing its effective date to upon approval; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1179, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1179, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Chun, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Miyake and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators San Buenaventura, Keohokalole, DeCoite and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 156 on H.B. No. 1365

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Appropriate funds to the Department of Agriculture for a Non-Potable Water Wells Pilot Program to prepare an environmental impact statement or environmental assessment to drill non-potable water wells on individual parcels at Panaewa Agricultural Park and Panaewa farm lots;
- (2) Require the Department of Agriculture to consult and coordinate with the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands on the location and distribution of water from non-potable water wells before and after the completion of the environmental impact statement or environmental assessment; and
- (3) Require any non-potable water well or improvement on individual parcels at Panaewa Agricultural Park and Panaewa farm lots that is completed according to the environmental impact statement or environmental assessment to revert to the State upon the lease expiration date.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the requirement that the Department of Agriculture consult and coordinate with the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands on the location and distribution of water from non-potable water wells;
- (2) Clarifying that the non-potable water wells or improvements that shall revert to the State are those on individual parcels under the Department of Agriculture;
- (3) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$300,000 for the Non-Potable Water Wells Pilot Program;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1365, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1365, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Lowen, Kahaloa, Takenouchi, Todd and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Gabbard, Inouye, Aquino, Rhoads, Richards and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 157 on H.B. No. 400

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the operating and capital improvement costs of the Judiciary for the fiscal biennium beginning on July 1, 2025, and ending on June 30, 2027.

As introduced, this budget measure appropriated:

Operating

	<u>FY 2025-2026</u>	<u>FY 2026-2027</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	203,319,009	203,391,600
ALL MEANS OF FINANCE	216,164,762	216,237,353

Capital Improvements

	<u>FY 2025-2026</u>	<u>FY 2026-2027</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	0	0
GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS	9,900,000	0
ALL MEANS OF FINANCE	9,900,000	0

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting appropriate operating and capital improvement amounts for fiscal biennium 2025-2027;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Specifically, this budget measure, as amended, appropriates operating totals of:

	<u>FY 2025-2026</u>	<u>FY 2026-2027</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	201,725,676	199,579,345
ALL MEANS OF FINANCE	214,571,429	212,425,098

Additionally, this budget measure, as amended, appropriates capital improvement totals of:

	<u>FY 2025-2026</u>	<u>FY 2026-2027</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	0	0
GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS	12,900,000	0
ALL MEANS OF FINANCE	12,900,000	0

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 400, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 400, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Yamashita, Poepoe, Takenouchi and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Rhoads, Moriwaki and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 158 on H.B. No. 134

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Chief Election Officer to provide a system for the electronic filing of nomination papers;
- (2) Prohibit the Chief Election Officer from charging an additional fee to filers for using the electronic system; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for the Chief Election Officer to provide a system for the electronic filing of nomination papers.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the system for the electronic filing of nomination papers shall be operated and maintained by the Office of Elections and made available to the county clerks;
- (2) Appropriating \$150,000 for the Chief Election Officer to provide a system for the electronic filing of nomination papers;
- (3) Changing the effective date to January 1, 2028; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 134, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 134, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Kitagawa and Matsumoto.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Rhoads, Kim and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 159 on H.B. No. 550

The purpose of this measure is to allow recordings made by law enforcement agencies who are using, controlling, or operating unmanned aerial vehicles to establish probable cause for arrests under the Fireworks Control Law if the unmanned aerial vehicle is recording directly above public property and the act leading to the arrest is committed on public property.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by changing the effective date to upon approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 550, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 550, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Kitagawa and Shimizu.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Elefante, Rhoads, Kim, Wakai and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 160 on S.B. No. 934

The purpose and intent of this measure is to increase the special fund expenditure ceiling for the mass transit special fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, for the developments detailed in the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation 2022 Recovery Plan.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the current cap on the mass transit special fund has resulted in large carry-over balances. To address funding shortfalls and meet commitments in the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation 2022 Recovery Plan, including critical infrastructure such as the Waiawa Pearl Highlands station, this measure raises the spending limit on the special fund for the 2025–2026 fiscal year.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Including additional information on priorities provided in the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation 2022 Recovery Plan and pursuant to the Amended Full Funding Grant Agreement with the Federal Transit Administration;
- (2) Changing the appropriation amount to \$572,695,000;
- (3) Amending the conditions for disbursements from the mass transit special fund; and
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 934, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 934, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Yamashita, Chun, Grandinetti and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, 1 (Muraoka). Excused, none.

Senators Lee, C., Elefante and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 161 on S.B. No. 1048

The purpose of this measure is to amend Act 205, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024 (Act 205), by:

- (1) Establishing separate registration, reporting, and fee requirements specific to platform charities and charitable fundraising platforms;
- (2) Clarifying standards and safeguards in online crowdfunding; and
- (3) Extending its effective date to July 1, 2026.

Your Committee on Conference finds that Act 205 was enacted in response to concerns over potentially fraudulent online fundraising platforms following the 2023 Maui wildfires. Among other things, Act 205 improved and expanded the Department of the Attorney General's regulation and enforcement of charitable fundraising activities through online platforms. Although Act 205 sought to ensure proper and transparent fundraising activities in the State, it has also imposed additional administrative burdens on charities and platforms, potentially slowing down donations and reducing the availability of support for the State's residents in times of crises. This measure seeks to strike a balance between targeting unscrupulous actors while providing charities with the necessary flexibility to raise funds for their charitable causes.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2026; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1048, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1048, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Matayoshi, Takenouchi, Iwamoto and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Keohokalole, Rhoads and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 162 on S.B. No. 935

The purpose and intent of this measure is to revise certain provisions regarding state employee retirements.

More specifically, the measure:

- (1) Amends the retirement allowance for a member who first earns credited service as a judge after June 30, 2031, to 1.75 per cent of the member's average final compensation for each year of credited service as a judge;
- (2) Includes sheriffs and deputy sheriffs in the enhanced retirement benefits category;
- (3) Reduces from ten years to five years, the minimum number of years of credited service that qualified Class H, Tier 2 members of the Employees' Retirement System must have to be eligible for vested benefit status for service retirement allowance purposes; and
- (4) Increases employer contributions to offset the resulting fiscal liability.

Your Committee on Conference finds that easing the requirements for certain public employees to be eligible for retirement benefits could help to improve employee recruitment and retention. Your Committee believes that the impacts and benefits of these potential eligibility changes merit additional study.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would:
 - (A) Include sheriffs and deputy sheriffs in the enhanced retirement benefits category under section 88-74(f), Hawaii Revised Statutes; and
 - (B) Reduce from ten years to five years, the minimum number of years of credited service that Class H, Tier 2 members of the Employees' Retirement System must have to be eligible for vested benefit status for service retirement allowance purposes;
- (2) Requiring the Department of Human Resources Development to study the impacts and benefits of reducing from ten years to five years, the minimum number of years of credited service that qualified Class H, Tier 2 members of the Employees' Retirement System must have to be eligible for vested benefit status for service retirement allowance purposes;
- (3) Appropriating \$300,000 in general funds to the Department of Human Resources Development to conduct the study; and
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 935, S.D. 2, H.D. 3, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 935, S.D. 2, H.D. 3, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Tarnas, Lee, M. and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4; Ayes with Reservations (Reyes Oda). Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Aquino, Hashimoto, Rhoads and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Hashimoto).

Conf. Com. Rep. 163 on H.B. No. 159

The purpose of this measure is to clarify that the civil service exemption for personal service contracts for building, custodial, and grounds maintenance services with qualified community rehabilitation programs shall not cost more than a certain amount in the aggregate per private person or entity, regardless of the number of contracts or qualified community rehabilitation programs utilized for the personal service.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the civil service exemption for personal service contracts pursuant to this measure shall not exceed \$3,000,000 in the aggregate; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 159, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 159, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Lee, M. and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Aquino, Hashimoto and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, 1 (Fevella). Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 164 on H.B. No. 1424

The purpose of this measure is to require the Director of Finance to report to the Legislature after approving the transfer of funds that were originally appropriated to fund positions but are instead used to pay for operating expenses, and vice versa, for any state department or agency.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the items to be included in the report to the Legislature;
- (2) Removing the requirement for the Legislature to consider certain criteria in making future appropriations to departments;
- (3) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1424, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1424, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Lee, M. and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators McKelvey, Kim, Hashimoto and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Hashimoto).

Conf. Com. Rep. 165 on H.B. No. 430

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize and appropriate funds for the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to administer an on-the-job training work experience program for eligible interns that partners with private entities to increase opportunities for high school and college and university students to participate in summer internship programs through a cost-sharing strategy;
- (2) Establish a state-funded internship and workforce development program within the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, in collaboration with the Department of Human Resources, to place interns in state executive branch departments, agencies or programs; and
- (3) Clarify that the State shall be the responsible employer for purposes of workers' compensation coverage for students or recent graduates in the on-the-job-training work experience program.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language requiring that the state-funded internship and workforce development program be funded through an annual appropriation by the Legislature;
- (2) Deleting language that required, as part of state-funded internship and workforce development program, that participants receive priority consideration for full-time employment in state government;
- (3) Inserting an appropriation in the amount of \$1,800,000 to the Department of Education to fund ninety full-time equivalent staff positions to support the internship programs pursuant to this measure and removing all other unspecified appropriations;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 430, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 430, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Lee, M. and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Aquino, Moriwaki and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 166 on H.B. No. 1052

The purpose of this measure is to provide clear authorization and guidance for the Public Utilities Commission to implement and manage, through the Universal Service Program, the provision of essential telecommunications services to time-sensitive information for individuals with print disabilities.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by changing the effective date to upon approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1052, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1052, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Matayoshi, Takenouchi, Iwamoto and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

Senators Fukunaga, Kanuha, Aquino and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 167 on H.B. No. 1027

The purpose of this measure is to provide appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of bargaining unit (1) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Including members of Bargaining Unit (10) and their excluded counterparts;
- (2) Inserting the appropriate figures for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 based upon the ratified collective bargaining agreement for Bargaining Units (1) and (10) as indicated in the Governor's Message No. 12 dated April 24, 2025;
- (3) Deleting unnecessary expenditure ceiling language;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1027, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1027, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Lee, M. and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.
Senators Aquino, Elefante and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 168 on H.B. No. 1028

The purpose of this measure is to provide appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of bargaining unit (2) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting the appropriate figures for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 based upon the ratified collective bargaining agreement for collective bargaining unit (2) as indicated in the Governor's Message dated April 24, 2025;
- (2) Deleting unnecessary expenditure ceiling language;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1028, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1028, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Lee, M. and Reyes Oda.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Aquino, Elefante and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 169 on H.B. No. 1029

The purpose of this measure is to provide appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of bargaining unit (3) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting the appropriate figures for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 based upon the ratified collective bargaining agreement for collective bargaining unit (3) as indicated in the Governor's Message dated April 24, 2025;
- (2) Deleting unnecessary expenditure ceiling language;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1029, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1029, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Lee, M. and Reyes Oda.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Aquino, Elefante and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 170 on H.B. No. 1030

The purpose of this measure is to provide appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of bargaining unit (4) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting the appropriate figures for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 based upon the ratified collective bargaining agreement for collective bargaining unit (4) as indicated in the Governor's Message dated April 24, 2025;
- (2) Deleting unnecessary expenditure ceiling language;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1030, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1030, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Lee, M. and Reyes Oda.
Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.
Senators Aquino, Elefante and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 171 on H.B. No. 1032

The purpose of this measure is to provide appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Bargaining Unit (6) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting the appropriate figures for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 based upon the ratified collective bargaining agreement for Bargaining Unit (6) as indicated in the Governor's Message dated April 24, 2025;
- (2) Deleting unnecessary expenditure ceiling language;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1032, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1032, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Lee, M. and Reyes Oda.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Aquino, Elefante and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 172 on H.B. No. 1033

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate or authorize funds for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Bargaining Unit (7) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Appropriating \$2,310,085 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$5,177,217 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for all collective bargaining cost items for health premium payments for Bargaining Unit (7);
- (2) Appropriating \$202,455 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$436,801 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for salary increases and other cost adjustments for the excluded counterparts of Bargaining Unit (7);
- (3) Deleting unnecessary language relating to the expenditure ceiling;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1033, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1033, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Lee, M. and Reyes Oda.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Aquino, Elefante and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 173 on H.B. No. 1034

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate or authorize funds for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 for collective bargaining cost items, including salary and other cost adjustments, for the members of collective bargaining unit (8) and their excluded counterparts.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting the appropriate figures for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 based upon the ratified collective bargaining agreement for collective bargaining unit (8) as indicated in the Governor's Message dated April 24, 2025;
- (2) Deleting unnecessary expenditure ceiling language;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1034, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1034, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Lee, M. and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Aquino, Elefante and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 174 on H.B. No. 1035

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate or authorize funds for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 for collective bargaining cost items, including salary and other cost adjustments, for the members of collective bargaining unit (9) and their excluded counterparts.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting the appropriate figures for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 based upon the ratified collective bargaining agreement for collective bargaining unit (9) as indicated in the Governor's Message dated April 24, 2025;
- (2) Deleting unnecessary expenditure ceiling language;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1035, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1035, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Lee, M. and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Aquino, Elefante and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 175 on H.B. No. 1038

The purpose of this measure is to provide appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of bargaining unit (13) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting the appropriate figures for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 based upon the ratified collective bargaining agreement for collective bargaining unit (13) as indicated in the Governor's Message dated April 24, 2025;
- (2) Deleting unnecessary expenditure ceiling language;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1038, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1038, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Lee, M. and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Aquino, Elefante and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 176 on H.B. No. 496

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit the use of certain words on the label of a consumer package that contains or includes tea or dried leaves from the plant *Pipturus albidus*, unless one hundred percent of the tea or dried leaves were grown in the State; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for a Measurement Standards Inspector position.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Prohibiting the use of misleading Hawaiian imagery, place names, or motifs as it relates to the labeling requirements;
- (2) Authorizing the Department of Agriculture to establish and administer a voluntary certification mark program;
- (3) Authorizing any person or the Department of Agriculture to sue for injunctive relief to compel compliance with the labeling requirements;
- (4) Defining "consumer package", "Hawaii-grown", and "nonconsumer package";
- (5) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$65,000 to the Department of Agriculture for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) Measurement Standards Inspector V position;

- (6) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 496, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 496, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kahaloa, Matayoshi, Kusch and Matsumoto.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Matayoshi).

Senators DeCoite, Gabbard, Kanuha, Richards and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Richards, Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 177 on H.B. No. 534

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the sale of processed food items with raw ahi products as an ingredient at Hawaii retail establishments without a label stating the country in which the ahi was landed.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Prohibiting the sale of raw processed ahi, rather than processed food items with raw ahi products as an ingredient, without a label stating the country in which the ahi was landed, and codifying the provisions under chapter 486, Hawaii Revised Statutes, rather than chapter 481B, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (2) Inserting a definition for "raw processed ahi";
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2026; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 534, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 534, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kahaloa, Matayoshi, Kusch, Miyake and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators DeCoite, Richards, Kim and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 178 on H.B. No. 1064

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Effectuate the recommendations of the "Phase 3" Forward-Looking Report by Fire Safety Research Institute regarding the August 2023 Maui wildfires;
- (2) Establish the Office of the State Fire Marshal within the Department of Law Enforcement for administrative purposes; and
- (3) Establish the State Fire Marshal Selection Commission.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Modifying the discretionary powers of the Office of the State Fire Marshal to include overseeing the development and maintenance of a comprehensive statewide wildfire hazard map that displays wildfire hazard zones;
- (2) Providing that if a State Fire Marshal has not already been appointed by the State Fire Council by June 30, 2025, as set forth in Act 209, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024 (Act 209), the State Fire Marshal shall be appointed by the Governor from a list of three names submitted by the State Fire Council;
- (3) Setting the salary of the State Fire Marshal and Deputy State Fire Marshal to be equal to the salary of the Director and Deputy Director of Human Resources Development respectively;
- (4) Authorizing, rather than requiring, the Office of the State Fire Marshal to develop and administer a Community Risk Reduction Program;
- (5) Deleting the Community Risk Reduction Special Fund;
- (6) Specifying that if a State Fire Marshal has already been appointed by the State Fire Council by June 30, 2025, as set forth in Act 209, the State Fire Marshal Selection Commission's authority to appoint the State Fire Marshal will begin upon the expiration of the incumbent State Fire Marshal's term;
- (7) Appropriating \$2,212,000 in each of fiscal year 2025-2026 and fiscal year 2026-2027 for one State Fire Marshal; one Deputy State Fire Marshal; one office assistant; two fire inspectors; three fire investigators; and the operations, costs, equipment, and expenses of the Office of the State Fire Marshal;
- (8) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (9) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1064, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1064, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Belatti, Tarnas, Lamosao, Ichiyama and Souza.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Elefante, Aquino, Lee, C., Rhoads, Wakai and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Rhoads, DeCorte).

Conf. Com. Rep. 179 on H.B. No. 1296

The purpose of this measure is to establish timely notice and reporting requirements to the Legislature regarding the allotment, transfer, or expenditure of monies in the Major Disaster Fund.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Governor and Administrator of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to submit, no later than October 1, 2025, to the Legislature a summary report containing certain information for the previous fiscal year;
- (2) Deleting language requiring a report from the Department of Budget and Finance; and
- (3) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025, and repealing it on July 1, 2026.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1296, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1296, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Belatti, Lamosao, Iwamoto, Morikawa and Souza.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Iwamoto).

Senators Elefante, Hashimoto, Wakai and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 180 on H.B. No. 800

The purpose of this measure is to transfer ownership of certain properties between the State and the City and County of Honolulu.

More specifically, this measure:

- (1) Provides for the transfer of certain parcels in the Liliha Civic Center area and Iwilei Fire Station area from various state agencies to the City and County of Honolulu;
- (2) Provides for the transfer of the parcel of land upon which Alii Tower is sited from the City and County of Honolulu to the Department of Land and Natural Resources; and
- (3) Exempts the lands transferred to the Department of Land and Natural Resources under this Act from the definition of public lands for the purposes of Chapter 171, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Your Committee on Conference finds that this measure will significantly contribute to addressing the State's urgent office space requirements by providing an opportunity to secure long-term office space for State agencies, consequently diminishing government dependence on privately-owned commercial office space. Your Committee on Conference further finds that exchanging the specified state properties for the fee simple interest in the parcel of land designated as Alii Tower will yield mutual benefits and substantial long-term advantages for both the State and the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the transfer of lands in parts I and II of the measure shall be effective December 31, 2025, or upon final approval by the City and County of Honolulu of the terms of the transfer of the Alii Tower parcel to the Department of Land and Natural Resources, whichever occurs later;
- (2) Requiring the Governor to notify the Legislature and the Revisor of Statutes upon the completed transfer of the fee simple interest in land pursuant to part II of the measure; and
- (3) Providing that if the City and County of Honolulu does not finalize approval of the terms of the transfer required under part II of the measure by December 31, 2026, the measure shall be repealed on January 1, 2027.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 800, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 800, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Hashem, Yamashita and Souza.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Inouye, Hashimoto, Elefante and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 181 on H.B. No. 250

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require utilization review entities to report certain prior authorization data to the State Health Planning and Development Agency; and
- (2) Establish the Health Care Appropriateness and Necessity Working Group to make recommendations to improve and expedite the prior authorization process.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Working Group is required to submit a report to the Legislature twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2026 and each Regular Session thereafter;
- (2) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 250, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 250, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Chun, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Marten and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators San Buenaventura, Keohokalole, Aquino and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 182 on H.B. No. 72

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Beginning January 1, 2026, require that pharmacy technicians be registered with and obtain a certificate of registration issued by the Board of Pharmacy;
- (2) Impose a duty on pharmacists-in-charge to report violations by registered pharmacy technicians to the Board of Pharmacy; and
- (3) Specify that supervising registered pharmacists are responsible for the actions of registered pharmacy technicians and pharmacy interns.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the \$20 registration fee for pharmacy technicians;
- (2) Changing its effective date to upon approval; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 72, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 72, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Matayoshi, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Amato and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Matayoshi).

Senators San Buenaventura, Keohokalole and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 183 on H.B. No. 713

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the Department of Human Services to conduct a rate study for Medicaid home health services in Hawaii.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$250,000 for the Department of Human Services to conduct a rate study for Medicaid home health services in Hawaii;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 713, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 713, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Marten, Morikawa, Amato, Olds and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Aquino, Moriwaki, Hashimoto and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Hashimoto).

Conf. Com. Rep. 184 on H.B. No. 1477

The purpose of this measure is to increase the domiciliary care rates for certain providers and clarify that the needs allowance and the domiciliary care rates are included in the state supplemental payment ceiling amounts.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to October 1, 2025; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1477, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1477, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Marten, Morikawa and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Aquino, Moriwaki, Hashimoto and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Hashimoto).

Conf. Com. Rep. 185 on H.B. No. 280

The purpose of this measure is to permanently establish and appropriate funds for the Community Outreach Court as a division of the District Court of the First Circuit.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

(1) Deleting language that would have:

(A) Appropriated funds for the operations of and permanent positions for the Community Outreach Court; and

(B) Authorized the Judiciary to enter into an intergovernmental agreement or memorandum of understanding with state and county agencies for purposes related to the Community Outreach Court;

(2) Inserting an appropriation of \$71,030 for each year of the fiscal biennium to the Department of Law Enforcement for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) deputy sheriff position to support the Community Outreach Court;

(3) Inserting an appropriation of \$45,000 for each year of the fiscal biennium to the Office of the Public Defender for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) paralegal position;

(4) Inserting an appropriation of \$90,000 for each year of the fiscal biennium to the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu as a grant-in-aid for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) paralegal position;

(5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and

(6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 280, H.D. 3, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 280, H.D. 3, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Marten, Tarnas, Morikawa, Olds and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Rhoads, Moriwaki and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 186 on H.B. No. 943

The purpose of this measure is to expand existing crisis intervention programs by:

(1) Requiring and appropriating funds for the Department of Health to establish a Homeless Triage and Treatment Center Program within its Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division to serve homeless individuals and individuals at risk of homelessness with substance abuse issues or mental illness;

(2) Requiring the Crisis Intervention and Diversion Services Program (Program) to redirect certain homeless persons to the appropriate health care system and services;

(3) Authorizing the Program to include intensive mobile outreach services; and

(4) Requiring appropriations for the Program to be used only for services contracted directly between the Department of Health and the service provider.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

(1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$500,000 for the establishment of the Homeless Triage and Treatment Center Program;

(2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and

(3) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 943, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 943, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Olds, Morikawa, Amato, Marten and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators San Buenaventura, Moriwaki, Hashimoto and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 187 on H.B. No. 613

The purpose of this measure is to make the Safe Spaces for Youth Pilot Program permanent within the Office of Youth Services.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation for \$871,016 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$1,841,016 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for a permanent Safe Spaces for Youth Program within the Office of Youth Services;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 613, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 613, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Marten, Morikawa, Olds and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Hashimoto, Inouye and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 188 on H.B. No. 705

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a temporary Medi-Medi Project within the Hawaii State Health Insurance Assistance Program to assist the underserved population in the State who may qualify for various low-income subsidy programs to gain access to their benefits; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the Hawaii State Health Insurance Assistance Program, including for staff and other operating expenses.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Establishing the Medi-Medi Project within the Executive Office on Aging, rather than within the Hawaii State Health Insurance Assistance Program;
- (2) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$121,016 to the Executive Office on Aging, including \$71,016 for the establishment of one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) position to implement and administer the Medi-Medi Project and \$50,000 for operating expenses, including education and outreach;
- (3) Requiring and appropriating \$300,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 for the Executive Office on Aging to develop a one-year pilot project to make available the Medi-Medi Project to kupuna and families living in a disadvantaged community, specifically the Kalihi Valley catchment areas;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 705, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 705, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Marten, Morikawa, Chun, Templo and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Hashimoto, Moriwaki and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 189 on H.B. No. 431

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for:

- (1) The continued implementation of the Kauhale Initiative and Ohana Zones Pilot Program; and
- (2) The development of supportive housing projects and the provision of supportive services for certain households in the supportive housing projects.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Establishing requirements for kauhale projects, including reporting requirements by the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions;
- (2) Requiring the Auditor to conduct a management and performance audit of the Kauhale Initiative and report to the Legislature;
- (3) Inserting appropriation amounts of \$18,575,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$24,325,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for the continued operation of the Kauhale Initiative;
- (4) Establishing the Ohana Zones Program as a permanent program within the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions;
- (5) Inserting appropriation amounts of \$2,525,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$5,855,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for the continued implementation of the Ohana Zones Pilot Program;
- (6) Deleting language that would have appropriated funds for supportive housing projects and supportive services for certain households in those projects;
- (7) Requiring the Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions to submit a report every four months to the Legislature detailing the expenditure of funds appropriated toward the Kauhale and Ohana Zones initiatives and conduct a comprehensive needs assessment and submit a report on the assessment to the Legislature;
- (8) Changing references to the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness to "Coordinator on Homelessness";

- (9) Specifying that the Coordinator on Homelessness shall report directly to the Director of Human Services;
- (10) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (11) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 431, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 431, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Marten, Evslin, Takenouchi, Olds and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Evslin, Pierick).

Senators San Buenaventura, Chang, Aquino and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Chang).

Conf. Com. Rep. 190 on S.B. No. 223

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to establish an independent program relating to the prevention, control, and extinguishment of wildland fires within forest reserves;
- (2) Authorize the Administrator of Forestry and Wildlife to establish and maintain facilities for the performance of fire protection, fire prevention, pest control, and forest and range protection and enhancement activities;
- (3) Allow the State Fire Council to amend the State Fire Code to require certain owners and occupants of properties and holders of easements located in hazardous fire areas to maintain effective firebreaks and to practice other fire prevention activities;
- (4) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to establish and implement the Community Fuels Reduction Project and submit reports to the Legislature; and
- (5) Appropriate funds for the Community Fuels Reduction Project.

Your Committee on Conference finds that as the State's climate is predicted to become hotter and drier, it is essential to maintain effective firebreaks by removing and clearing flammable vegetation and combustible growth from areas near buildings, structures, and other premises. This measure adopts a proactive approach to fire prevention and mitigation to protect the State's communities from the devastation caused by wildfires.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have appropriated funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to establish positions to support the prevention, control, and extinguishment of wildland fires within forest reserves;
- (2) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$1,000,000 for each year of the fiscal biennium for the Community Fuels Reduction Project to support wildfire prevention and hazardous fuel reduction measures on state lands;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 223, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 223, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Belatti, Hashem, Lamosao and Shimizu.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Inouye, Elefante, Gabbard, Lee, C., McKelvey and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Gabbard, McKelvey).

Conf. Com. Rep. 191 on S.B. No. 589

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a goal of installing fifty thousand new installations of customer-sited distributed energy resources by December 31, 2030;
- (2) Require the Public Utilities Commission to use tariffs for grid services programs, microgrids, and community-based renewable energy;
- (3) Require sufficient compensation for solar and energy storage exports to the electric grid;
- (4) Require the Public Utilities Commission to establish grid service compensation values;
- (5) Specify that persons who construct, maintain, or operate a new microgrid are not considered a public utility solely due to furnishing service to consumers through that new microgrid;
- (6) Authorize intragovernmental wheeling of renewable energy; and
- (7) Require the Public Utilities Commission to establish policies and procedures to implement intragovernmental wheeling and microgrid service tariffs.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the State's electric grid faces significant challenges, including aging fossil fuel dependent infrastructure, heightened risks from extreme climate-related weather events, and persistent utility management issues. Your Committee on Conference further finds that the State must invest in solutions, such as microgrids, community-based or shared renewable energy programs, and wheeling, to ensure grid stability and system resilience.

The programs and policies supported by this measure will help the State meet its renewable energy goals by increasing access to affordable energy, stabilizing grid costs, and driving economic growth and job creation.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Public Utilities Commission to establish a goal for new customer-sited distributed energy resources, to be installed in the State by December 31, 2030, rather than specifying a goal of fifty thousand new installations of customer-sited distributed energy resources by December 31, 2030;
- (2) Requiring that the Public Utilities Commission establish, rather than use, tariffs to achieve the installation goal and for grid services programs, microgrids, and community-based renewable energy;
- (3) Specifying that the type of wheeling authorized and implemented by this measure is the wheeling of renewable energy, rather than intragovernmental wheeling and requiring the Public Utilities Commission to establish policies and procedures to implement wheeling and microgrid service tariffs no later than January 1, 2027; provided that any wheeling project eligible under the rule or order shall have a capacity of not less than one hundred kilowatts alternating current and not more than two megawatts alternating current;
- (4) Deleting the definitions for "intragovernmental wheeling" and "retail wheeling";
- (5) Defining "wheeling" as the transmission of renewable electric power from a storage or energy generation system through the utility meter for consumption by a separate utility account holder;
- (6) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose;
- (7) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 589, S.D. 1, H.D. 3, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 589, S.D. 1, H.D. 3, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Lowen, Matayoshi, Takenouchi, Perruso and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Matayoshi, Pierick).

Senators Wakai, Keohokalole, Lee, C. and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 192 on S.B. No. 662

The purpose of this measure is to authorize county police officers to enforce the Statewide Traffic Code on all public streets, roadways, or highways within the State.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the Statewide Traffic Code ensures proper conduct on the State's roadways, establishing accountability for motor vehicle operators and safeguards for all roadway users. However, inconsistent enforcement of the Statewide Traffic Code due to the varied jurisdiction of law enforcement has created confusion regarding the reporting of infractions and notification of roadway improvements. Therefore, clarifying enforcement of the Statewide Traffic Code will ensure safer public roadways and equitable application of existing law.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 662, S.D. 1, H.D. 3, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 662, S.D. 1, H.D. 3, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Evslin, Kila, Todd, Miyake and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Kila, Muraoka).

Senators Chang, Elefante, Lee, C. and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Lee, C.).

Conf. Com. Rep. 193 on S.B. No. 739

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow the Governor, subject to approval by the Board of Land and Natural Resources, to negotiate land exchanges consistent with and in furtherance of the State's agricultural and housing needs and purposes, in a manner that ideally addresses all needs and purposes; and
- (2) Require the Governor to submit a report to the Legislature of the negotiated land exchanges for final approval.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the State's current level of agricultural production is insufficient to meet the State's food consumption needs, leaving the State overly reliant on imported food which threatens the State's sustainable future and preparedness for future disasters, emergencies, and crises. Your Committee on Conference also finds that the lack of suitable, entitled lands for development of appropriate housing is a major factor in the housing crisis, and substantial obstacles and delays in entitling such lands discourage development, lower housing inventory, and raise housing prices. Your Committee on Conference also finds that land exchanges represent a viable method of addressing the agricultural and housing challenges that the State currently experiences. This measure allows the Governor to negotiate mutually beneficial exchanges of developable state lands for housing for privately owned agricultural lands for farming.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by changing its effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 739, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 739, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Hashem, Kahaloa, Lamosao, Morikawa and Souza.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Inouye, Gabbard, Aquino, McKelvey and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (McKelvey).

Conf. Com. Rep. 194 on S.B. No. 865

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to establish a permanent extension agent position within the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience's Kona Cooperative Extension.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the University of Hawaii at Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience's (CTAHR) Kona Cooperative Extension has assisted and contributed to the success of the Kona coffee industry and other crops grown in the area. This measure will support the coffee industry throughout the State by establishing an additional Extension Agent position within CTAHR's Kona Cooperative Extension to provide much needed support to local farmers.

Your Committee on Conference notes that the Agribusiness Development Corporation possesses the expertise to support growers of coffee and other orchard crops with export potential, including macadamia nuts, cacao, and tea. Your Committee on Conference also notes that the Agribusiness Development Corporation, in conjunction with CTAHR, will be able to provide coffee growers with the necessary information to increase coffee production and improve the economic viability of growers.

Accordingly, your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$76,500 for both years of the fiscal biennium to be expended by the Agribusiness Development Corporation, rather than the University of Hawaii, to:
 - (A) Support the Coffee and Orchard Crops Extension and Applied Research Program;
 - (B) Support the Kona Research Station in the County of Hawaii; and
 - (C) Fund the establishment of one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent Extension Agent position within the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience's Kona Cooperative Extension;
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 865, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 865, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Garrett, Holt, Kapela, Lamosao and Souza.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Kim, Kanuha and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 195 on S.B. No. 1146

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the University of Hawaii to:

- (1) Develop an action plan and pre-engineering concept plan to help with debris management and water quality control in the Ala Wai watershed; and
- (2) Establish two graduate assistant positions to assist with the action plan and pre-engineering concept plan.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the Ala Wai watershed is an important natural resource enjoyed by residents and an asset for the State's economy. However, intense rain and weather events further inland cause debris from streams and tributaries to wash into the canal. This measure leverages the expertise available at the University of Hawaii to develop near- and long-term debris management and water quality solutions in the Ala Wai watershed.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting appropriation amounts of \$425,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$150,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for:
 - (A) The development of an action plan and pre-engineering concept plan to help with debris management and water quality control in the Ala Wai watershed;
 - (B) The University of Hawaii to establish two graduate positions to assist with the action plan and pre-engineering concept plan; and
 - (C) Partial summer overload support for faculty mentors providing oversight of the student project teams;
- (2) Inserting language specifying that the amounts appropriated shall also be expended for other current expenses;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1146, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1146, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Garrett, Hashem, Holt, Olds and Souza.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Kim, Inouye, Moriwaki and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 196 on S.B. No. 1220

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require gas utility companies to submit proposed renewable gas tariffs to the Public Utilities Commission by August 31, 2025; and
- (2) Require the Public Utilities Commission to establish a renewable gas tariff within nine months of receiving a completed application for a proposed renewable gas tariff.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the existing regulatory process in the State requires gas utility companies to file an application for proposed renewable gas tariffs with the Public Utilities Commission to review through the process of a general rate case. General rate cases typically take two years to complete and can cost between two and three million dollars. Without an accelerated regulatory process in place, gas utility companies will try to keep rates stable for as long as possible by delaying rate cases.

Your Committee on Conference further finds that this measure will facilitate the timely consideration of tariff approvals by requiring gas utility companies to file an application for a proposed initial renewable gas tariff by August 31, 2025, and requiring the Public Utilities Commission to make a decision on their applications within nine months if certain requirements are met. Streamlining the review process for renewable gas tariffs will enable customers to choose a cleaner energy option, support consumer demand for sustainable alternatives, and ensure just and reasonable rates. Your Committee on Conference therefore finds that this measure will help to ensure that renewable gas tariffs do not lead to increased costs for non-participating ratepayers and maintain equity throughout the process.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by making it effective upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1220, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1220, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Lowen, Matayoshi, Takenouchi, Perruso and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

Senators Keohokalole, Wakai, Kanuha, Richards and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 197 on S.B. No. 1252

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the University of Hawaii to establish positions for the University of Hawaii at Manoa John A. Burns School of Medicine's (JABSOM) Department of Geriatric Medicine to provide coordination between the University of Hawaii's programs that provide training on Alzheimer's disease and dementia.

Your Committee on Conference finds that the State has a rapidly increasing aging population. Of this population, approximately thirty-one thousand people aged sixty-five or older are living with Alzheimer's disease or another form of dementia. Your Committee on Conference further finds that many health care providers in the State do not receive specialized training on dementia. Your Committee on Conference also finds that JABSOM's Department of Geriatric Medicine, University of Hawaii's Center for Aging, and University of Hawaii's Thompson School of Social Work and Public Health have been providing courses and actively engaging in educating students in Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia to prepare them for caring for patients with these conditions. This measure establishes additional staff positions in JABSOM's Department of Geriatric Medicine to provide greater coordination between various University of Hawaii programs in delivering training to health care professionals.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$525,000, for the establishment of two full-time equivalent (2.0) positions within JABSOM's Department of Geriatric Medicine to:
 - (A) Coordinate and incorporate training on Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia for health care providers into existing University of Hawaii programs; and
 - (B) Review, update, and develop a dementia curriculum to be incorporated into existing University of Hawaii programs with the goal of establishing a local, informed dementia workforce;
- (2) Inserting language requiring JABSOM's Department of Geriatric Medicine to submit an annual report to the Legislature beginning December 15, 2025, through December 15, 2027, on the hiring of personnel and accomplishments realized pursuant to this measure;
- (3) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose;
- (4) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1252, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1252, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Garrett, Holt, La Chica, Miyake and Souza.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (La Chica, Miyake).

Senators Kim, Aquino and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 198 on S.B. No. 1434

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the Universal Immunization Funding Program as a universal funding model for immunization purchases by the Department of Health, to increase statewide access to immunizations for all persons under age sixty-five; and
- (2) Establish the Universal Immunization Purchase Special Fund, into which fees collected from assessed entities and other sources of funding will be deposited, for purposes of bulk purchasing immunizations and administering the program.

Your Committee on Conference finds that "Universal Purchase" or "Universal Select" (collectively, UP) programs are programs that enable states to leverage bulk purchasing and federal immunization programs to establish a streamlined procurement, oversight, and distribution system for all recommended vaccines for children and adults. Your Committee on Conference further finds that providers currently take on considerable risk because of the need to pay for their private sector immunization supplies up front, as well as incurring other expenses such as secure and temperature-controlled storage. By centralizing public and private sector immunization procurement and leveraging bulk purchasing power through federal or state consortium contracts, this measure lowers private-sector costs and improves access to needed immunizations for all keiki, families, and communities statewide.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have appropriated funds out of the general revenues of the state to be deposited into the Universal Immunization Purchase Special Fund;
- (2) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$934,000 out of the Universal Immunization Purchase Special Fund for fiscal year 2025-2026 to be expended by the Department of Health for the purchase of immunizations and the administration of the Universal Immunization Funding Program;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1434, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1434, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Keohokapu-Lee Loy and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 2. Noes, 1 (Alcos). Excused, none.

Senators San Buenaventura, Inouye, Aquino and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 199 on H.B. No. 1026

The purpose of this measure is to make emergency appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Bargaining Units (1), (2), (3), (4), (8), (9), (10), (13), and (14) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal year 2024-2025.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting the appropriate figures for fiscal biennium 2023-2025 based upon the amounts for Collective Bargaining Units (1), (2), (3), (4), (8), (9), (10), (13), and (14) as indicated in the Governor's Message dated April 24, 2025;
- (2) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1026, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1026, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Sayama, Lee, M. and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Aquino, Elefante and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 200 on S.B. No. 1396

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend the Transient Accommodations Tax rate beginning on January 1, 2027;
- (2) Amend the allowable uses of the Special Land and Development Fund and the portion of Transient Accommodations Tax collections that are allocated to the Special Land and Development Fund;
- (3) Assess the Transient Accommodations Tax on cruise ship cabins based on the total time the cruise ship is docked at any port in the State; and
- (4) Appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for protection, management, and restoration of the State's natural resources as well as for environmental stewardship, climate and hazard mitigation, and sustainable tourism.

Your Committee on Conference finds that as an island chain, the State is particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Your Committee on Conference further finds that climate change also threatens the State's resort and tourism areas, which are essential to the State's economy. Your Committee on Conference therefore concludes that the State must invest in mitigation and adaptation to address its climate emergency. Accordingly, this measure will ensure the long-term viability of the State's tourism industry and natural resources by increasing the Transient Accommodations Tax to fund climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resiliency initiatives.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Effective July 1, 2025, requiring the Governor to request in the executive budget or supplemental budget that an amount of general funds that approximates the additional Transient Accommodations Tax revenue generated by this measure be expended to advance certain climate change mitigation and tourism projects;
- (2) Inserting language to define "cruise fare" as the total amount paid by a transient for a cruise ship cabin on a cruise ship, inclusive of any mandatory fees imposed by a cruise ship operator, owner, or representative thereof on a transient for the use of shipboard services, facilities, meals, and onboard entertainment, but not including optional charges for shipboard services, meals, excursions, and onboard entertainment beyond the mandatory fee amount;
- (3) Deleting language that would have amended the definition of "lease", "let", or "rental" to include the leasing or renting of cruise ship cabins in cruise ships;
- (4) Deleting language that would have amended the definition of "transient accommodations" to include the furnishing of cruise ship cabins in cruise ships;
- (5) Inserting language that amends the definition of "gross rental" or "gross rental proceeds" to include the gross receipts derived from cruise fares;
- (6) Sunsetting the existing 9.25 percent tax rate levied on the gross rental or gross rental proceeds derived from furnishing transient accommodations on December 31, 2025, rather than December 31, 2026;
- (7) Inserting ten percent as the new tax rate levied on the gross rental or gross rental proceeds derived from furnishing transient accommodations beginning on January 1, 2026;
- (8) Inserting eleven percent as the tax rate assessed on the operator of a cruise ship on gross rental proceeds derived from cruise fares;
- (9) Clarifying that the operator of a cruise ship shall be assessed and pay a tax on all gross rental proceeds derived from cruise fares prorated by the percentage of days docked at any port in the State in comparison to the total number of days of the voyage, rather than a tax on all gross rental proceeds derived from the furnishing of a cruise ship cabin for the duration of the cruise lease, prorated by the percentage of total time docked at any port in the State;
- (10) Sunsetting the existing 9.25 percent tax rate levied on the occupant of a resort time share vacation unit on December 31, 2025, rather than December 31, 2026;
- (11) Inserting ten percent as the new tax rate levied on the occupant of a resort time share vacation unit beginning on January 1, 2026;
- (12) Inserting eleven percent as the new non-specified Transient Accommodations Tax rate for the period beginning on January 1, 2018, to December 31, 2030;
- (13) Specifying that 0.98 percent of the tax revenues levied, assessed, and collected pursuant to section 237D-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall be deposited quarterly into the Mass Transit Special Fund;
- (14) Clarifying that the remaining tax revenues levied, assessed, and collected at the ten percent tax rate pursuant to subsections 237D-2 (a) and (c), Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall be deposited into the general fund;
- (15) Deleting language that would have appropriated funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the preservation of natural resources, environmental stewardship, climate and hazard mitigation, and sustainable tourism;
- (16) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose;
- (17) Changing its effective date to January 1, 2026; and
- (18) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1396, S.D. 3, H.D. 3, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1396, S.D. 3, H.D. 3, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tam, Hashem, Yamashita, Ichiyama and Matsumoto.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators DeCoite, Gabbard, Kim and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 201 on S.B. No. 1501

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require the Department of Budget and Finance to enter into step-in agreements to guarantee payments from electric utilities under certain power purchase agreements.

Your Committee on Conference finds that since the Maui wildfires, the credit rating of a certain investor-owned electric utility and its subsidiaries has fallen below investment grade. This low grade increases the risk that independent power producers will not be paid, which, in turn, increases the financing costs incurred by independent power producers to fund new projects. Your Committee on Conference further finds that the step-in agreements required by this measure will help to ensure that independent power producers will be paid if an electric utility defaults, thus lowering financing risk and costs, decreasing the price to develop new energy projects, and ultimately helping to reduce energy costs for Hawaii ratepayers.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Defining the terms "Hawaii electric system," "independent power producer," and "reserve account";
- (2) Specifying that "obligee" shall not include users, owners, or operators that claimed a tax credit for a project system under section 235-12.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (3) Requiring the Department of Budget and Finance to execute a step-in agreement within ninety days of notice of the filing of an application for approval of a power purchase agreement;
- (4) Authorizing the Department of Budget and Finance to rely on an invoice of an obligee for determining amounts owed to the obligee following a default by an electric utility;
- (5) Specifying that reserve fees may be included in the purchased power adjustment clause on customer bills;
- (6) Exempting from the Hawaii Public Procurement Code the Department of Budget and Finance's designation of the electric utility to collect the power purchase charges and reserve fees;
- (7) Making the measure effective upon approval; and
- (8) Making technical nonsubstantive amendments for purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1501, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1501, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Lowen, Yamashita, Kusch, Perruso and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

Senators Hashimoto, Keohokalole and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 202 on S.B. No. 1500

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Public Utilities Commission to appoint a receiver to take temporary action necessary to assure continued adequate electric services from failing regulated investor-owned electric utilities; and
- (2) Require an appointed receiver to recognize and maintain the terms and conditions of any existing collective bargaining agreement and prohibit the receiver from inducing or causing a reduction in force or terminating a covered employee other than for a cause consistent with any collective bargaining agreement.

Your Committee on Conference finds that, when a regulated water or sewer utility is failing, or if there is an imminent threat of the utility failing, to provide adequate and reliable service to its customers, the Public Utilities Commission has the authority to appoint a receiver to take temporary action on behalf of the regulated water or sewer utility under existing law. Your Committee on Conference further finds that the same authority does not exist with respect to regulated investor-owned electric utilities. This measure extends the authority of the Public Utilities Commission to appoint a receiver for regulated investor-owned electric utilities.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by making it effective upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1500, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1500, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Lowen, Sayama, Matayoshi, Takenouchi and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Matayoshi, Reyes Oda).

Senators Keohokalole, Wakai, Richards and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 203 on S.B. No. 1009

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a state reserved parking space enforcement fine for the unauthorized use of parking spaces reserved for persons with disabilities or electric vehicles to be deposited into the Safe Routes to School Program Special Fund; and
- (2) Specify that a fine shall not be imposed on a person who parks in a space designated and marked as reserved for electric vehicles if the electric vehicle charging system is visibly inoperable or broken.

Your Committee on Conference finds that existing regulations, penalties, and enforcement have been insufficient to deter the widespread improper use of parking spaces reserved for persons with disabilities or electric vehicles. This abuse inhibits accessibility for persons with disabilities and disincentivizes the transition to more sustainable modes of transportation. Therefore, this measure establishes an additional fine to discourage the unauthorized use of parking spaces reserved for persons with disabilities or electric vehicles.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the additional state reserved parking space enforcement fine for unauthorized use of a parking space reserved for persons with disabilities is \$100, rather than \$25;
- (2) Specifying that fifty percent of all fines collected from the state reserved parking space enforcement fine shall be deposited into the Safe Routes to School Program Special Fund, rather than one hundred percent, and fifty percent shall be deposited into the general fund;
- (3) Specifying that additional state reserved parking space enforcement fine for unauthorized use of a parking space reserved for electric vehicles is \$50, rather than \$25;
- (4) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose; and
- (5) Making it effective upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1009, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1009, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Tarnas, Grandinetti and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

Senators Lee, C., Rhoads, Aquino and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 204 on S.B. No. 1526

The purpose of this measure is to extend the timeline for the establishment and maintenance of the drug and alcohol toxicology testing laboratory.

Your Committee on Conference finds that a toxicology testing laboratory is an essential resource that will assist the Department of Law Enforcement in its efforts to combat drug- and alcohol-related offenses. Your Committee on Conference further finds that the establishment of a toxicology laboratory will facilitate the efficient processing of evidence by reducing testing backlogs and providing crucial forensic support to law enforcement agencies across the State. This measure extends the funding timeline to ensure that there is adequate time to properly plan, build, and equip the toxicology laboratory.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by changing its effective date to June 29, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1526, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1526, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Grandinetti, La Chica and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Lee, C., Moriwaki, Kanuha and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 205 on S.B. No. 1578

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the official designation of the East-West Center as the Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange Between East and West, Inc.;
- (2) Exempt state fund appropriations to the East-West Center from chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (3) Rename the Hawaii Sister-State Committee to the Hawaii Sister-State and International Partnerships Commission and amends its functions and membership;
- (4) Require the Office of International Affairs to provide support to the Hawaii Sister-State and International Partnerships Commission;
- (5) Expand the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism's authority to:
 - (A) Establish out-of-state offices to include out-of-state facilities to support sister-state or province partnerships and other partnerships that promote and enrich the people, cultures, environments, and economies of the State and its international partners;
 - (B) Generate revenue for the State; and
 - (C) Buy property; and
- (6) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee on Conference finds that interstate partnerships are extremely valuable to the economic, sociopolitical, and cultural growth of the State. Your Committee on Conference further finds that updating the names, functions, and authority of a broad spectrum of entities relating to various forms of partnership involving the State is an appropriate way to promote further growth and embrace an increasingly transnational world.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that to receive state funds, the Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange Between East and West, Inc. shall agree to not use the funds for entertainment or lobbying activities in the State;
- (2) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$200,000 for each year of the fiscal biennium for the Office of International Affairs to develop a strategy for international engagement and an analysis of potential investment and revenue generation abroad;
- (3) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$4,000,000 for each year of the fiscal biennium for the Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange Between East and West, Inc. to assist in the development and maintenance of the State's international relationships, programs, and partnerships; and
- (4) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1578, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1578, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Ilagan, Takenouchi and Matsumoto.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Lee, C., DeCoite and Hashimoto.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (DeCoite).

Conf. Com. Rep. 206 on S.B. No. 1044

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend state laws governing the Hawaii Property Insurance Association and the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund to enable these entities to underwrite certain insurance risks in the State that no standard insurer is currently willing to underwrite;
- (2) Appropriate funds as a loan to the Hawaii Property Insurance Association; and
- (3) Require the Insurance Commissioner to conduct a study to monitor and identify the most effective methods of stabilizing the property insurance market in the State.

Your Committee on Conference finds that many homeowners in the State are paying significantly high property insurance premiums and are seeing more notices of non-renewals, while small businesses are also struggling with premium hikes on their insurance policies. Your Committee on Conference further finds that the State's rising disaster risks and increasingly volatile conditions of the property insurance market have caused property insurance premiums for residents and businesses to increase drastically over the years, while condominium properties have seen the availability of building master insurance policies and unit owner insurance policy options decrease. Accordingly, your Committee on Conference finds that legislative action is necessary to help stabilize the property insurance market and ensure that property owners can access affordable property insurance coverage in the State. This measure seeks to provide much-needed stability in the insurance market for homeowners, businesses, and condominium associations in the State until market conditions improve.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting legislative findings;
- (2) Clarifying that certain assessments, and their recoupment, shall be subject to the approval of the Insurance Commissioner;
- (3) Inserting a temporary mortgage recording fee amount of not more than \$44 per document and specifying the time period during which the fee shall be collected, and the duration of the assessment collected by the Hawaii Property Insurance Association, shall not exceed thirty-six months;
- (4) Establishing a Condominium Loan Program and Condominium Loan Revolving Fund to be administered by the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority to provide financing to qualified condominium associations for maintenance or repair projects to address deferred maintenance to further help stabilize the standard insurance market;
- (5) Inserting language to establish a Condominium Loan Loss Reserves Program to incentivize community development financial institutions to provide loans at competitive rates and terms to condominium associations to allow them to perform necessary maintenance or make repairs;
- (6) Deleting language that would have made a general fund appropriation and instead inserting language to authorize the Director of Finance to issue \$20,000,000 in reimbursable general obligation bonds for fiscal year 2025-2026 for deposit into the Condominium Loan Revolving Fund, to be expended by the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority to administer the Condominium Loan Program;
- (7) Inserting an appropriation of \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 from the Hurricane Reserve Trust Fund to the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority for gap debt servicing repayments on the reimbursable general obligation bonds issued to the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority;
- (8) Deleting language that would have appropriated general funds that would have provided a loan to the Hawaii Property Insurance Association for administrative and start-up costs;
- (9) Authorizing the Director of Finance to issue \$30,000,000, rather than \$50,000,000, in reimbursable general obligation funds for deposit into the Hurricane Reserve Trust Fund, provided that the existing balance of the Fund is first committed, to provide working capital to finance permitted purposes, to be reimbursed by premiums collected on insurance policies issued by the Hawaii Hurricane Relief Fund and any other funds available to the Fund;
- (10) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025, and abolishing the Condominium Loan Revolving Fund on June 30, 2047; and
- (11) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1044, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1044, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Matayoshi, Yamashita, Chun, Tam and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Keohokalole, Moriwaki, Fukunaga, McKelvey and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 207 on H.B. No. 1156

The purpose of this measure is to increase the total principal amount of special facility revenue bonds that may be issued by the Department of Transportation for harbor improvements.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Increasing the total principal amount to \$600,000,000; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1156, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1156, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Kitagawa and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Lee, C., Aquino, Inouye and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 208 on H.B. No. 235

The purpose of this measure is to require the Safe Routes to Schools Advisory Committee to develop and prioritize no less than three safe routes to schools projects serving schools directly adjacent to Kamehameha Highway.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the Department of Transportation to expand the use of the photo red light imaging detector and automated speed enforcement systems to locations on the North Shore of Oahu;
- (2) Requiring the City and County of Honolulu to educate the public on the expansion of the photo red light imaging detector and automated speed enforcement systems;
- (3) Authorizing the Department of Transportation to seek input from the Judiciary and affected communities when selecting locations for the expansion;
- (4) Requiring the Department of Transportation to submit a report to the Legislature before the Regular Session of 2026 on the progress of this mandated expansion;
- (5) Authorizing, rather than requiring, the Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee to develop and prioritize a maximum, rather than a minimum, of three safe routes to school projects serving schools directly adjacent to Kamehameha Highway;
- (6) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 235, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 235, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Grandinetti and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Lee, C., Elefante, Rhoads and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 209 on H.B. No. 860

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Specify that the State or a county may repair or maintain any street of which the ownership or jurisdiction is in dispute;
- (2) Specify that the State or county that repaired or maintained such street may only be held liable for acts or omissions arising out of the repair or maintenance of that street;
- (3) Deem that repair or maintenance of a street shall not confer ownership or jurisdiction over such street; and
- (4) Sunset on July 1, 2030.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Authorizing agencies performing work to post notice, signage, or other public communication clarifying that the repair does not establish permanent jurisdiction or ownership;
- (2) Specifying that this measure only applies in a county with a population of more than two hundred thousand but less than five hundred thousand;
- (3) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and

(4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 860, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 860, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Tarnas, Grandinetti, Kusch and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Tarnas).

Senators Lee, C., Wakai, Rhoads, Kanuha and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Wakai).

Conf. Com. Rep. 210 on H.B. No. 1159

The purpose of this measure is to establish a Commercial Harbors Emergency Evacuation Working Group.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the Department of Transportation's required administrative support to the Working Group;
- (2) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1159, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1159, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Belatti, Poepoe, Grandinetti and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Lee, C., Rhoads, Aquino, Inouye and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 211 on H.B. No. 960

The purpose of this Act is to:

- (1) Increase the maximum value of capital advancement contracts that may be executed by the Department of Transportation without legislative approval;
- (2) Increase the minimum value of capital advancement contracts requirement for the Department of Transportation to obtain legislative approval through concurrent resolution;
- (3) Increase the total aggregate value of capital advancement contracts that the Department of Transportation may enter into in a fiscal year; and
- (4) Establish certain reporting requirements related to capital advancement contracts.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Increasing the maximum value of capital advancement contracts that may be executed by the Department of Transportation without legislative approval to \$5,000,000;
- (2) Increasing the minimum value of capital advancement contracts requirement for the Department of Transportation to obtain legislative approval through concurrent resolution to \$5,000,000;
- (3) Increasing the total aggregate value of capital advancement contracts that the Department of Transportation may enter into in a fiscal year to \$30,000,000;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (5) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 960, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 960, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Grandinetti, Evslin, Garrett and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garrett).

Senators Lee, C., Aquino, Kanuha and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 212 on H.B. No. 667

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require:

- (1) The Department of Transportation or the appropriate county department or agency to:
 - (A) Scan the deceased animal for a microchip;

- (B) Record the microchip as well as any other relevant information; and
- (C) Notify appropriate county animal services or animal service contractors about the deceased animal; and
- (2) A county agency assisting with the disposal of a deceased cat or dog found on a public roadway to collaborate with the Department of Transportation in utilizing the Department's microchip scanners.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the requirements for the Department of Transportation and applicable county agencies in scanning any cat or dog carcass found on a state or county roadway;
- (2) Deleting language relating to the Department of Transportation or county agency disposing of a deceased cat or dog found on a public roadway and assisting each other in disposing of the cat or dog;
- (3) Authorizing the Department of Transportation and each county to coordinate with each other to share scanner resources;
- (4) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 667, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 667, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Grandinetti, La Chica, Miyake and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Miyake, Pierick).

Senators Lee, C., Elefante, Inouye and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 213 on H.B. No. 862

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the use of motorcoaches, small buses, and vans for school bus services, provided that certain conditions are met, pursuant to the Governor's August 2024 emergency proclamation on school bus services;
- (2) Require the State to upgrade to zero-emission school buses by 2045; and
- (3) Require state agencies to prioritize zero-emission buses in the procurement policy for purchasing or leasing motor vehicles.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by reverting to the H.D. 1 version, which only authorizes the use of motorcoaches, small buses, and vans for school bus services if certain conditions are met, and further amending the measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 862, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 862, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Morikawa and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Lee, C., Kidani and Kanuha.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kanuha).

Conf. Com. Rep. 214 on H.B. No. 1231

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit the use of facial recognition software in the operation of any photo red light imaging detector system or automated speed enforcement system;
- (2) Authorize the State Highway Safety and Modernization Council to recommend dangerous intersections for installation of additional photo red light imaging detector systems;
- (3) Require the Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee to recommend dangerous school zones for installation of additional automated speed enforcement systems;
- (4) Increase vehicle weight taxes and allocates the increased revenues to the Safe Routes to School Program Special Fund;
- (5) Clarify the summons and citations processes for the automated speed enforcement systems program; and
- (6) Appropriate funds for the automated speed enforcement systems program.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Establishing a Safe Routes to School Program vehicle registration surcharge on certain motor vehicle registrations, to be imposed and collected no later than December 31, 2025, and deposited into the Safe Routes to School Program Special Fund;
- (2) Requiring the county Directors of Finance to notify the Department of Transportation of the county's intended start date for the Safe Routes to School Program vehicle registration surcharge;

- (3) Clarifying the prohibition on using facial recognition software in photo red light imaging detector systems and automated speed enforcement systems;
- (4) Deleting language that would have:
 - (A) Increased the vehicle weight taxes and allocated the increased revenues to the Safe Routes to School Program Special Fund;
 - (B) Authorized automated speed enforcement systems within two hundred feet of a school zone;
 - (C) Amended the maximum speed limit threshold for purposes of summons or citations under the Automated Speed Enforcement Systems program; and
 - (D) Required Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee to recommend locations to install additional automated speed enforcement systems;
- (5) Removing the appropriation;
- (6) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1231, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1231, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Grandinetti and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Lee, C., Kim, Rhoads, Elefante and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (DeCorte).

Conf. Com. Rep. 215 on H.B. No. 958

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit individuals under fifteen years of age from operating a class 3 electric bicycle;
- (2) Increase the age requirement for helmet use from sixteen years of age to eighteen years of age;
- (3) Allow the use of electric bicycle on public sidewalks, subject to certain conditions;
- (4) Establish requirements for electric bicycle operations; and
- (5) Prohibit individuals under eighteen years of age from operating an electric motorcycle or motor-driven cycle.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by reverting to the H.D. 2 version and further amending it by:

- (1) Clarifying safe riding behaviors when operating an electric bicycle and authorizing the Department of Transportation and each county to adopt rules to define additional unsafe or reckless behaviors;
- (2) Including bicycle facilities as places where the operation of a high-speed electric device is prohibited and specifying penalties for operating high-speed electric devices in certain locations;
- (3) Clarifying labeling and signage requirements, including penalties, for manufacturers, distributors, and sellers of electric bicycles;
- (4) Prohibiting the operation of a moped or electric motorcycle in certain locations;
- (5) Reducing the wheel size for bicycles for purposes of the county vehicular tax;
- (6) Prohibiting the operation of an electric bicycle in certain areas unless the electric bicycle is properly registered and authorizing the Department of Transportation to adopt rules regarding the electric bicycle registration requirements;
- (7) Making conforming amendments to regulate electric micro-mobility devices in a similar manner as electric foot scooters;
- (8) Amending the definition of "high-speed electric device";
- (9) Authorizing persons under the age of fourteen to operate a class 2 electric bicycle under the direct supervision of a parent, guardian, or person over the age of eighteen;
- (10) Clarifying where a bicycle equipped with a motor or class 3 electric bicycle is prohibited from riding on sidewalks;
- (11) Repealing language relating to driving mopeds on bicycle lanes and paths;
- (12) Clarifying that nothing in this measure shall be construed to prohibit the use of mobility devices as defined in the American with Disabilities Act;
- (13) Inserting a severability clause;
- (14) Changing the effective date to upon approval; provided that labeling and signage requirements shall take effect on December 31, 2025; and
- (15) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 958, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 958, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kila, Tarnas, Grandinetti, Lamosao and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Lamosao).

Senators Lee, C., Keohokalole, Rhoads and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Keohokalole).

Conf. Com. Rep. 216 on S.B. No. 1571

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Exempt all positions filled by the Hawaii Tourism Authority (Authority) within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism from the State's Civil Service Law;
- (2) Designate the Board of Directors of the Authority as an advisory board;
- (3) Make the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Authority a position appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate; and
- (4) Amend the eligibility requirements to serve on the Authority's Board of Directors by repealing the two-year waiting period for former Hawaii Visitors and Convention Bureau board members.

Your Committee on Conference finds that exempting all positions within the Authority from the State's Civil Service Law is necessary to support the State's commitment to the improving the visitor industry. This measure will provide the Authority with greater flexibility to recruit skilled professionals to carry out its mission.

Your Committee on Conference notes that this measure is an effort to improve and strengthen and rebuild public trust in the Authority by ensuring leadership accountability and proper oversight.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language that amends the definition of "convention center facility" for the purposes of chapter 201B, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to mean any combination of land, buildings, and improvements thereon acquired or developed by the State that reflects a Hawaii, rather than Hawaiian, sense of place;
- (2) Designating the Authority's Board of Directors as an advisory board, rather than a policy-making board;
- (3) Amending the composition of the Authority's Board of Directors by:
 - (A) Requiring the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives to each appoint one member, rather than requiring three members to be appointed by the Governor from a list of three names submitted for each appointment by the President of the Senate, and three members to be appointed by the Governor from a list of three names submitted for each appointment by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; provided that if fewer than three names are submitted for each appointment, the Governor may disregard the list;
 - (B) Repealing statutory language that prohibits more than three members to represent, be employed by, or be under contract to any sector of the industry represented on the Board;
 - (C) Repealing statutory language that requires one member to be the Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, or the Director's designee;
 - (D) Inserting language that requires at least one member to represent a tourism-impacted entity;
 - (E) Clarifying that, upon the occurrence of a vacancy of a member appointed by the President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House of Representatives, as appropriate, shall appoint a member to fulfill those positions, rather than submitting nominees; and
- (4) Requiring the Authority's Board of Directors to submit a nominee to the Governor, who shall:
 - (A) Transmit a Governors' message with the name of the nominee to the Senate within ten days of receipt; and
 - (B) Appoint the nominee to serve as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Authority, subject to the advice and consent of the Senate, rather than requiring the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, to appoint one person to serve as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Authority;
- (5) Requiring the Authority's President and Chief Executive Officer to report to the Governor, notwithstanding any law to the contrary;
- (6) Requiring the Authority's Board of Directors to set, pursuant to written contract, the length of the President and Chief Executive Officer's term of service;
- (7) Making it effective upon its approval; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1571, S.D. 2, H.D. 3, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1571, S.D. 2, H.D. 3, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tam, Sayama, Templo and Matsumoto.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Sayama).

Senators DeCoite, Aquino, Wakai, Kim and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 217 on S.B. No. 1249

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish an Agricultural Crime Prevention Program within the Department of Agriculture to provide grants, education, administrative enforcement, and other services to benefit the State's agricultural industry;
- (2) Clarify create, and strengthen laws regarding crimes and violations related to agriculture or agricultural lands and hunting on private agricultural lands;

- (3) Establish clear distinctions between administrative and criminal penalties; and
- (4) Appropriate funds to the Department of Agriculture to carry out this measure and hire necessary staff.

Your Committee on Conference finds that agricultural crimes pose a significant and growing threat to the sustainability and growth of the State's agricultural industry. This measure seeks to address the complex and multifaceted nature of agricultural crimes and safeguard local food production for present and future generations by ensuring stronger legal protections for the agricultural producers of the State.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have established an Agricultural Crime Prevention Program within the Department of Agriculture to provide grants, education, administrative enforcement, and other services to benefit the State's agricultural industry, and replacing it with language that establishes the Agricultural Enforcement Pilot Program on the islands of Oahu and Hawaii to be implemented at the discretion of the Director of Law Enforcement, and appropriates \$949,856 for each year of the fiscal biennium for:
 - (A) The establishment of the following positions within the Agricultural Enforcement Pilot Program:
 - (i) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) assistant chief position;
 - (ii) Two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) state law enforcement investigator positions; provided that one position shall be assigned to the County of Hawaii and one position shall be assigned to the City and County of Honolulu; and
 - (iii) Six full-time equivalent (6.0 FTE) uniformed state law enforcement officer positions for patrol functions; provided that three positions shall be assigned to the County of Hawaii and three positions shall be assigned to the City and County of Honolulu; and
 - (B) Other operating expenditures of the Agricultural Enforcement Pilot Program;
- (2) Establishing sentencing requirements for a conviction of the offense of habitual agricultural crime;
- (3) Amending the definition of "brand" as it relates to certain animals;
- (4) Deleting language that would have established additional livestock inspectors and a veterinary medical officer within the Department of Agriculture;
- (5) Clarifying that a livestock harvesting establishment may seek assistance from the Department of Agriculture or a law enforcement officer, rather than a livestock inspector, if ownership determination via brand inspection is in question, or violation or theft is suspected;
- (6) Requiring the management of a livestock harvesting establishment to submit to the Department of Agriculture, on a weekly basis, livestock ownership and movement certificates that correlate with all livestock harvested;
- (7) Deleting language that would have established the Brand Inspection Special Fund;
- (8) Deleting language that would have specified that the Department of Agriculture's duties, under the laws on animals, brands, and fences, are administrative;
- (9) Requiring the fees for applications to register a brand or mark and fines imposed in connection with the offense of criminal trespass on agricultural land to be deposited into the Animal Industry Special Fund;
- (10) Clarifying that a person is guilty of a petty misdemeanor, rather than a misdemeanor, when the person maliciously and designedly opens a gateway, or breaks a fence, to allow an animal to commit a trespass;
- (11) Deleting language that would have amended existing law regarding fines for continued trespassing by animals;
- (12) Clarifying that dog owners who neglect or refuse to take certain actions when their dogs trespass on private property and cause property damage are guilty of a misdemeanor and shall pay the person injured for the damage and the costs of trial;
- (13) Deleting language that would have allowed persons convicted of a habitual agricultural crime to be sentenced to an indeterminate term of imprisonment;
- (14) Requiring persons discovering an altered, removed, obliterated, or prohibited brand to make a report of the altered, removed, obliterated, or prohibited brand to any law enforcement officer or the Department of Agriculture, rather than any livestock inspector;
- (15) Denying the opportunity for probation or a suspension of sentence for any person convicted of hunting or night hunting on private agricultural lands and clarifying sentencing requirements;
- (16) Deleting language that would have amended existing laws on hunting on private lands to require written authorization;
- (17) Deleting language that would have included the duties and prohibitions relating to hunting on agricultural lands in the instruction provided by the Department of Agriculture's Hunter Education Program;
- (18) Deleting language that would have required certain signage as an element of the offense of criminal trespass on agricultural land;
- (19) Deleting language that would have required sentences without the possibility of probation for those convicted of criminal property damage in the first degree, second degree, and third degree;
- (20) Increasing the minimum term of imprisonment for those for those convicted of criminal property damage in the second degree from ninety days to one hundred eighty days;
- (21) Increasing the minimum term of imprisonment for those for those convicted of criminal property damage in the third degree from thirty days to ninety days;
- (22) Deleting language that would have appropriated funds to the Department of Agriculture to carry out this measure and hire necessary staff;
- (23) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose;
- (24) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; provided that the Agricultural Enforcement Pilot Program shall repeal on July 1, 2028; and
- (25) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1249, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1249, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kahaloe, Tarnas, Kusch, Poepoe and Matsumoto.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Gabbard, DeCoite, Rhoads, Richards and Awa.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 218 on S.B. No. 825

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a two-year pilot program beginning on February 5, 2026, that:
 - (A) Extends the period for a notice of termination of a rental agreement from five business days to ten calendar days;
 - (B) Requires landlords, or their agents, and tenants to engage in mediation and requires landlords or their agents to delay filing an action for summary possession if a tenant schedules mediation;
 - (C) Requires landlords or their agents to provide specific information in the ten-calendar-day notice to tenants; and
 - (D) Requires mediation to take place within thirty days from the date that a mediation center makes contact with both the landlord, or the landlord's agent, and tenant;
- (2) Require the Judiciary to submit a report to the Legislature; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for the Judiciary to contract for mediation services.

Your Committee on Conference finds that Act 57, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021 (Act 57), established a temporary Pre-Litigation Mediation Program to address the potential high volume of evictions as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Among other things, Act 57 modified the notice requirements for residential summary possession cases, mandated pre-filing mediation between landlords and tenants, and provided funds for mediation services and rent relief. Through the program, mediation assisted many low-income renters to avoid eviction and allowed negotiated move-outs that avoided further judicial proceedings and ensured that landlords would receive their payments. The program successfully mediated agreements for eighty-five percent of disputes, allowing tenants to remain in their homes and providing stability to their housing situation. Your Committee further finds that mediation has shown to be an effective tool in resolving eviction disputes amicably between landlords and tenants. This measure incorporates the most effective provisions of Act 57 to promote housing stability and prevent evictions.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$1,250,000 for each year of the fiscal biennium the Judiciary to contract for mediation services;
- (2) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

Your Committee on Conference further notes that while this is a temporary pilot program, this measure also requires the Judiciary to submit a report to the Legislature prior to its termination to make recommendations as to whether it should be made permanent. Your Committee on Conference requests that the report include the following:

- (1) Total number of mediations requested under this measure;
- (2) Total number of mediations that resulted in a payment plan between the landlord and tenant;
- (3) Total number of successful payment plans where both landlord and tenant met the terms of the agreement;
- (4) Total number of mediations that resulted in judgments for summary possession;
- (5) Total number of payment plans that resulted in judgments for summary possession;
- (6) Average number of days from initial request of mediation to date that mediation occurs;
- (7) Total cost of process to each individual landlord and tenant if mediation is scheduled;
- (8) Average cost of each mediation; and
- (9) Total cost of the pilot project to the State of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 825, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 825, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Matayoshi, Poepoe, Takenouchi, Chun and Pierick.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 4. Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, none.

Senators Keohokalole, Hashimoto, Rhoads, Fukunaga and McKelvey.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (McKelvey).

Conf. Com. Rep. 219 on S.B. No. 897

The purpose and intent of this measure is to help mitigate the financial impacts of any future catastrophic wildfires in the State.

More specifically, the measure:

- (1) Authorizes electric cooperatives to recover wildfire mitigation, repair, and restoration costs through an automatic rate adjustment clause or through a recovery mechanism established by the Public Utilities Commission;

- (2) Establishes a method for determining the limit of the aggregate liability of electric utilities for qualifying economic damages arising from a covered catastrophic wildfire;
- (3) Authorizes electric utilities to securitize certain costs; and
- (4) Establishes a working group to consider the feasibility of, and report to the Legislature on, the establishment of a wildfire recovery fund.

Your Committee on Conference finds that, if a future catastrophic wildfire occurs in the State, the mechanisms established by this measure will help balance the solvency interests of the State's electric utilities with the need to protect utility ratepayers and compensate victims of catastrophic wildfires.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring that the Public Utilities Commission adopt and periodically review rules, subject to approval of the Governor, to determine each electric utility's maximum payable amount for catastrophic wildfires, rather than establishing a statutory mechanism for determining the maximum payable amount;
- (2) Setting out factors for the Public Utilities Commission to consider when adopting rules to establish the maximum payable amount;
- (3) Specifying that the Hawaii Supreme Court shall have original jurisdiction over any challenge to the validity of rules addressing an electric utility's maximum payable amount;
- (4) Requiring that an electric utility seeking to assert a limitation on aggregate liability shall:
 - (A) Have a wildfire mitigation plan that has been approved by the Public Utilities Commission, and have received a determination by the Commission that the plan is being implemented pursuant to a timeline approved by the Commission; and
 - (B) Be in full compliance with any conditions and reporting requirements established by rule;
- (5) Requiring that the Public Utilities Commission study whether the framework established in the measure adequately balances electric utilities' solvency interests with the compensation owed to any catastrophic wildfire victims, and report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature;
- (6) Requiring that the Public Utilities Commission, rather than a working group within the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, conduct a study on the establishment and implementation of a wildfire recovery fund, and report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature;
- (7) Requiring that the Public Utilities Commission submit annual reports to the Legislature on the Commission's securitization activities;
- (8) Establishing certain requirements that must be met before the Public Utilities Commission may issue a financing order to issue bonds to recover infrastructure resilience costs including that, after the effective date of this Act, the first \$500,000,000 in infrastructure resilience capital investments, in the aggregate, must be made under this Act;
- (9) Appropriating moneys; and
- (10) Making technical nonsubstantive edits for purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 897, S.D. 3, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 897, S.D. 3, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Lowen, Matayoshi, Tarnas, Takenouchi and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, 1 (Matayoshi).

Senators Hashimoto, Keohokalole, Kanuha, Rhoads and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Keohokalole).

Conf. Com. Rep. 220 on H.B. No. 427

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Rename the Department of Agriculture to the "Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity" (Department);
- (2) Rename the Board of Agriculture to the "Board of Agriculture and Biosecurity" (Board);
- (3) Establish a Deputy Chairperson for Biosecurity;
- (4) Require the Department to establish a Biosecurity Emergency Response Program;
- (5) Grant the Chairperson of the Board rapid response quarantine authority under certain circumstances;
- (6) Authorize the Department to establish transitional facilities and require the Department to establish standards and a licensing framework for those facilities;
- (7) Require the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to license and train biosecurity inspectors to inspect imported plants and animals;
- (8) Rename the State of Hawaii plant and animal declaration form as the State of Hawaii biosecurity declaration form;
- (9) Require inspection of various items transported interisland;
- (10) Increase penalties for illegally transporting plants, animals, and microorganisms;
- (11) Require the Department to establish government-industry agreements to detect and respond to unwanted organisms in the State;
- (12) Require the Department to establish an invasive species dashboard by December 1, 2025;
- (13) Transfer the Hawaii Invasive Species Council from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department;
- (14) Authorize pest management plans to address, contain, or eradicate pests;
- (15) Authorize the Department to adopt rules to establish and enforce the Plant Care Component Program;
- (16) Authorize the Department to assess administrative penalties for the enforcement of the Plant Care Component Program;

(17) Establish positions; and

(18) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying the qualifications for members of the Board of Agriculture and Biosecurity to include at least one member with a background in biosecurity;
- (2) Deleting language that would have required the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity (Department) to establish a Biosecurity Emergency Response Program and would have granted the Chairperson of the Board rapid response quarantine authority;
- (3) Authorizing and specifying conditions under which the Department may declare a biosecurity emergency, during which the Department and Governor may take certain actions to prevent the establishment or spread of pests and prohibited or restricted organisms;
- (4) Broadening the objectives and general actions of the Biosecurity Program;
- (5) Clarifying provisions related to transitional facilities;
- (6) Inserting a definition for "import" as used in relation to transitional facilities;
- (7) Clarifying provisions related to transitional facility licenses, including inspections to ensure compliance;
- (8) Requiring the Department, rather than the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, to certify and train biosecurity compliance auditors, rather than biosecurity inspectors, to inspect imported plants and animals;
- (9) Including cut-foliage under the articles subject to conditions of importation into and transport within the State;
- (10) Repealing language that made it a violation to fail to properly distribute or collect State of Hawaii plant and animal declaration forms;
- (11) Establishing certain notification requirements for bringing or causing to be brought for entry any restricted articles into the State;
- (12) Clarifying provisions related to inspectional requirements;
- (13) Authorizing, rather than requiring, the Department to enter into government-industry agreements for readiness and response to unwanted organisms in the State;
- (14) Clarifying provisions related to the response activities included in the readiness and response agreements;
- (15) Requiring the Department to establish a pest dashboard, rather than an invasive species dashboard;
- (16) Clarifying provisions related to biosecurity and pest management plans;
- (17) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$4,250,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 to the Department of Land and Natural Resources and fiscal year 2026-2027 to the Department, both to be used for the operations of the Hawaii Invasive Species Council;
- (18) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$500,000 for the operations of the Hawaii Ant Lab;
- (19) Deleting language that would have appropriated funds for various personnel services and for construction at the Halawa Animal Quarantine Station and Halawa Animal Industry facility;
- (20) Inserting an appropriation for \$500,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and fiscal year 2026-2027 for the operations of the Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Response under the University of Hawaii;
- (21) Changing the effective date of part II (related to the establishment of a Deputy Chairperson for Biosecurity) to January 1, 2027;
- (22) Changing the effective date of part VII (related to the transfer of the Hawaii Invasive Species Council from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the Department) to January 1, 2030; and
- (23) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 427, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 427, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Kahaloa, Tarnas, Yamashita, Quinlan and Matsumoto.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

Senators Gabbard, Lee, C., Keohokalole, Wakai, Rhoads and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Keohokalole, Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 221 on H.B. No. 1391

The purpose of this measure is to establish the Hawaii-Ireland Trade Commission within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting a general fund appropriation of \$75,000 for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to fund out-of-state relations activities; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1391, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1391, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Ilagan, Holt, Hussey, Quinlan and Matsumoto.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Quinlan).

Senators DeCoite, Lee, C. and Kim.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kim).

Conf. Com. Rep. 222 on H.B. No. 934

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Rename the Hawaii Broadband and Digital Equity Office as the Broadband Office and transfer the Office from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services in the Department of Accounting and General Services;
- (2) Repeal broadband duties assigned to the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs;
- (3) Repeal the Broadband Assistance Advisory Council;
- (4) Transfer the duty of collecting and posting certain broadband infrastructure notices to the Broadband Office;
- (5) Establish the Broadband Revolving Fund; and
- (6) Appropriate funds into and out of the Broadband Revolving Fund for the reimbursement of contracts executed by the Broadband Office and to establish Digital Navigator positions.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Establishing the Broadband Office within the Department of Accounting and General Services instead of specifically in the Office of Enterprise and Technology Services;
- (2) Clarifying that the Broadband Office shall advise the Comptroller, instead of the Chief Information Officer, on broadband deployment;
- (3) Clarifying that expenditures from the Broadband Revolving Fund shall be made by the Broadband Office advised by the Information Technology Steering Committee and subject to prior approval by the Comptroller;
- (4) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$800,000 out of the Broadband Revolving Fund to fund and establish six full-time equivalent Digital Navigator positions;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 934, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 934, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Ilagan, Yamashita and Matsumoto.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators DeCoite, Wakai, Kim and Awa.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kim).

Conf. Com. Rep. 223 on H.B. No. 242

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a working group within the Hawaii State Energy Office to examine how to maximize the recycling and reuse of electric vehicle batteries and recommend electric vehicle battery management practices; and
- (2) Require the working group to submit a report to the Legislature prior to the Regular Session of 2027.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the report to the Legislature to include any other factors deemed necessary and relevant; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to upon approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 242, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 242, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Perruso, Takenouchi, Marten and Alcos.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Wakai, Gabbard, Lee, C. and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Gabbard).

Conf. Com. Rep. 224 on H.B. No. 735

The purpose of this measure is to allow an individual wastewater system to serve up to five bedrooms, regardless of the number of dwellings, dwelling units, or accessory units, whether attached or detached, with certain exclusions.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by changing its effective date to upon approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 735, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 735, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Lowen, Hashem, Takenouchi, Evslin and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Hashem).

Senators San Buenaventura, Gabbard, Hashimoto and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 225 on H.B. No. 750

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend the authorized uses of the Deposit Beverage Container Deposit Special Fund to include evaluating and promoting recyclable market development activities;
- (2) Require the Department of Health to conduct a statewide needs assessment to determine what will be needed to reduce waste generation, increase reuse, improve recycling collection services, and expand local processing of materials through an extended producer responsibility program for packaging materials and paper products;
- (3) Establish an advisory council to review the draft needs assessment and propose recommendations throughout the assessment process;
- (4) Require the Department of Health to hold a public hearing on the draft needs assessment and complete and submit the needs assessment to the Legislature by December 31, 2028;
- (5) Allow manufacturers to coordinate activities directly related to the recycling of covered electronic devices;
- (6) Expand the scope of covered electronic devices to include electronic device peripherals and certain legacy devices;
- (7) Allow manufacturers to provide free collection service locations and collection events to satisfy their recycling obligations; and
- (8) Appropriate funds out of the Deposit Beverage Container Deposit Special Fund for the needs assessment.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing provisions related to amending the authorized uses of the Deposit Beverage Container Special Fund, allowing manufacturers to coordinate certain activities, expanding the scope of covered electronic devices, and allowing manufacturers to provide free collection service locations and collection events to satisfy their recycling obligations;
- (2) Clarifying that the Department of Health may contract for professional services to conduct the needs assessment;
- (3) Amending the composition of the advisory council;
- (4) Changing the deadline for the submission of the needs assessment from December 31, 2028, to December 31, 2027;
- (5) Changing the appropriation amount to \$1,500,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026, adding an appropriation of \$1,500,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027, and changing the means of financing from the Deposit Beverage Container Deposit Special Fund to general revenues;
- (6) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 750, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 750, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Lowen, Matayoshi, Takenouchi, Chun, Quinlan and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, 1 (Pierick). Excused, none.

Senators Hashimoto, Gabbard, Wakai and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 226 on H.B. No. 879

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the maximum grant amount for the Cesspool Compliance Pilot Grant Project; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the Cesspool Compliance Pilot Grant Project and to establish three full-time equivalent positions within the Department of Health.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting all proposed amendments to the Cesspool Compliance Pilot Grant Project;
- (2) Removing the appropriation for the Cesspool Compliance Pilot Grant Project;
- (3) Changing the positions to be established by the appropriation to one full-time equivalent Engineer III position and inserting an appropriation amount of \$76,704;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 879, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 879, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Lowen, Hashem, Kitagawa, Perruso and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Hashem).

Senators Hashimoto, Gabbard, Moriwaki and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 227 on H.B. No. 969

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the construction, modification, or expansion of any waste or disposal facility on land that is above a significant aquifer as determined by the Department of Health.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting a preamble related to protecting freshwater sources and agricultural lands from landfill contamination;
- (2) Inserting language to prohibit landfill units on land in an agricultural district with class A soils in a county with a population greater than five hundred thousand;
- (3) Deleting language that would have prohibited the construction, modification, or expansion of any waste or disposal facility on land that is above a significant aquifer;
- (4) Narrowing the existing prohibition on the construction, modification, or expansion of waste or disposal facilities within a one-half mile buffer zone of residential, school, or hospital property lines to apply specifically to landfill units or components of landfill units;
- (5) Prohibiting the construction, modification, or expansion of a landfill unit, or any component of a landfill unit, inland of an underground injection control line in a county with a population greater than five hundred thousand, with certain exemptions;
- (6) Adding definitions for "landfill unit" and "underground injection control line";
- (7) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 969, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 969, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Lowen, Hashem, Poepoe, Takenouchi, Perruso, Quinlan and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 6. Noes, 1 (Garcia). Excused, none.

Senators San Buenaventura, Inouye, Lee, C. and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Inouye).

Conf. Com. Rep. 228 on H.B. No. 1168

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii to issue revenue bonds to finance qualifying priority capital improvement projects of the University of Hawaii; and
- (2) Condition the appropriation of revenue bond proceeds on the provision of financial assistance for room and board costs to students who have a demonstrated financial need and qualify for the resident tuition fee.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the revenue bond authorization and appropriation amount from an unspecified amount to \$30,750,000;
- (2) Clarifying the conditions of the appropriation of revenue bond proceeds to be for students residing in the University of Hawaii student housing services program with a demonstrated financial need, as determined by the University of Hawaii, who qualify for the resident tuition to assist the students with a housing allowance, stipend, or similar financial aid to help offset a portion of an increase in room and board costs that are due to increased debt service from said revenue bonds;
- (3) Specifying that any unexpended and unencumbered balance of the appropriation shall not lapse at the end of fiscal year 2026-2027 and shall lapse instead on June 30, 2030;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1168, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1168, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Garrett, Kitagawa, Amato and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Kim, Kanuha and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 229 on H.B. No. 736

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a three-year New Wastewater System and Individual Wastewater System Technology Testing Pilot Program within the University of Hawaii Water Resources Research Center.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$745,325 for fiscal year 2025-2026 to implement the New Wastewater System and Individual Wastewater System Technology Testing Pilot Program within the University of Hawaii Water Resources Research Center;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 736, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 736, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Garrett, Lowen, Takenouchi, Amato and Alcos.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.
Senators Kim, Gabbard, Lee, C. and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 230 on H.B. No. 442

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for various nursing programs of the University of Hawaii System.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Appropriating \$215,552 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and fiscal year 2026-2027 for the University of Hawaii, West Oahu (UOH 700) for the pre-nursing pathway, including for the establishment of two full-time equivalent (2.0) positions, to be allocated as follows:
 - (A) \$107,776 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) program coordinator; and
 - (B) \$107,776 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) academic advisor coordinator;
- (2) Removing the appropriations for:
 - (A) The University of Hawaii, Manoa (UOH 100)-University of Hawaii, West Oahu nursing collaboration phase III;
 - (B) The University of Hawaii, Manoa (UOH 100) for the online registered nurse (RN) to bachelor of science (BS) program; and
 - (C) The University of Hawaii at Hilo (UOH210) to increase its school of nursing cohort size;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 442, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 442, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Garrett, Holt, Miyake, Sayama and Souza.
Managers on the part of the House.
Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.
Senators Kim, Hashimoto and Fevella.
Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 231 on H.B. No. 126

The purpose of this measure is to make the State's property forfeiture process more just by:

- (1) Increasing transparency and accountability surrounding property forfeiture;
- (2) Restricting civil asset forfeiture to cases involving the commission of a felony offense where the property owner has been convicted of an underlying felony offense;
- (3) Repealing the monetary cap on the distribution of forfeited property and the proceeds thereof to governmental units;
- (4) Requiring the Attorney General to adopt rules necessary to carry out the purposes of the Hawaii Omnibus Criminal Forfeiture Act;
- (5) Amending the deadline for the Attorney General to report to the Legislature on the use of the Hawaii Omnibus Criminal Forfeiture Act; and
- (6) Repealing language that requires the Hawaii Omnibus Criminal Forfeiture Act to be construed liberally.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Restricting civil asset forfeiture to cases where the owner has received a charge for the offense, instead of cases involving the commission of a felony offense where the property owner has been convicted of an underlying felony offense;

- (2) Requiring seized property to be returned to the legal owner if a charge is not filed within one year from the date of seizure;
- (3) Amending the authorized disposition of forfeited property and the proceeds thereof;
- (4) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 126, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 126, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Kitagawa and Shimizu.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Rhoads, Kanuha and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 232 on H.B. No. 1045

The purpose of this measure is to make emergency appropriations to the Department of Accounting and General Services and the Judiciary for payroll and fringe benefit costs of certain Department of Law Enforcement personnel.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Appropriating \$2,480,509 for an interdepartmental transfer from the Department of Accounting and General Services to the Department of Law Enforcement for personnel costs, including payroll and fringe benefits;
- (2) Appropriating \$4,673,616 for an interdepartmental transfer from the Judiciary to the Department of Law Enforcement for personnel costs, including payroll and fringe benefits;
- (3) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1045, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1045, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Kitagawa and Shimizu.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Elefante, Moriwaki, Fukunaga and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fukunaga).

Conf. Com. Rep. 233 on H.B. No. 1483

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish various criminal offenses and penalties related to fireworks or articles pyrotechnic;
- (2) Amend and establish various definitions and penalties for fireworks offenses, including establishing heightened penalties under certain circumstances;
- (3) Incorporate fireworks infractions into the existing adjudication process for traffic and emergency period infractions; and
- (4) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Providing that the limitation on the number of permits a person may obtain does not apply to permits for aerial devices, articles pyrotechnic, or display fireworks;
- (2) Deleting the appropriation; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1483, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1483, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Kitagawa and Shimizu.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Elefante, Rhoads, Kim, Wakai and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 234 on H.B. No. 1409

The purpose of this Act is to:

- (1) Amend the funding priorities of the Rental Housing Revolving Fund to incentivize development in areas that satisfy transit-supportive density requirements;
- (2) Allocate a minimum percentage of the Rental Housing Revolving Fund for certain mixed-income rental housing projects;
- (3) Require the Transit-Oriented Development Infrastructure Improvement District Board to consider the infrastructure needs of transit-supportive density requirements; and
- (4) Require the strategic plan developed by the Hawaii Interagency Council for Transit-Oriented Development to delineate transit-oriented development areas for each county.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have amended the funding priorities of the Rental Housing Revolving Fund;
- (2) Establishing a Mixed-Income Subaccount within the Rental Housing Revolving Fund to finance certain projects, including those located in transit-oriented developments, instead of allocating a minimum percentage of the Rental Housing Revolving Fund for certain mixed-income rental housing projects, and sunseting the Subaccount on June 30, 2030;
- (3) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1409, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1409, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Evslin, Hashem, Miyake and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

Senators Chang, Inouye, Kanuha and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 235 on H.B. No. 422

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal the construction cost component of school impact fees;
- (2) Exempt additional projects from school impact fees, including certain affordable, government, and Hawaiian home lands developments and single-room dwellings;
- (3) Increase the minimum number of units in a development to trigger land dedication provisions of the land component impact fee; and
- (4) Require the School Facilities Authority to adopt rules governing fee collection and report to the Legislature on the benefits and impacts of this measure.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making conforming amendments to delete certain definitions no longer used;
- (2) Repealing the requirement for new residential units with less than fifty units to include a written agreement relating to a time specified for payment of a fee in lieu;
- (3) Expanding prohibited uses of fee in lieu land dedication funds;
- (4) Clarifying that any educational contribution agreement executed with the Department of Education or School Facilities Authority before the effective date of this measure shall remain in effect unless mutually terminated or renegotiated;
- (5) Clarifying that this measure applies to new residential developments permitted or approved on or before June 30, 2029;
- (6) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 422, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 422, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Evslin, Miyake, Perruso and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Chang, Kim, Kidani, Hashimoto and Kanuha.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Hashimoto).

Conf. Com. Rep. 236 on H.B. No. 1298

The purpose of this measure is to establish within the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation a Government Employee Housing Revolving Fund Program and a Government Employee Ninety-Nine Year Leasehold Rent-to-Own Program.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language establishing a Government Employee Housing Revolving Fund Program and a Government Employee Ninety-Nine Year Leasehold Rent-to-Own Program;

- (2) Establishing a Government Employee Housing Program that is to be financed by the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund to facilitate the creation of affordable residential rental units;
- (3) Inserting an appropriation of \$200,000 for each year of the 2025-2027 fiscal biennium for the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation to conduct planning for the Government Employee Housing Program;
- (4) Inserting an appropriation of \$160,000 for each year of the 2025-2027 fiscal biennium for the establishment of one full-time equivalent position within the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1298, H.D. 3, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1298, H.D. 3, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Evslin, Sayama, Miyake, Kapela and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

Senators Chang, Aquino, Kanuha and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 237 on H.B. No. 830

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Beginning July 1, 2027, allow the State Historic Preservation Division to contract its review of certain proposed projects to third-party consultants under certain circumstances;
- (2) Establish requirements for qualified third-party consultants providing review services;
- (3) Require the project proponent to pay for the reasonable fee requirements of the third-party consultant;
- (4) Allow the project proponent to contract or sponsor with any county, housing authority, non-profit organization, or person, to meet the third-party consultant fee requirement;
- (5) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to publish a draft of its proposed rules within one year of the effective date of this measure, and within one year thereafter, present its proposed final rules to the Board of Land and Natural Resources; and
- (6) Appropriate funds for the State Historic Preservation Division's recruitment and retention of qualified third-party consultants and full-time equivalent positions to oversee the third-party consultants.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Exempting projects that trigger Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act from this measure;
- (2) Authorizing third-party review on residential units and mixed-use developments, as long as a majority of the mixed-use development is residential for state projects and projects affecting historic properties;
- (3) Deleting language that would have allowed a third-party review for privately-owned historic property under certain circumstances;
- (4) Removing all appropriations;
- (5) Changing the sunset date to June 30, 2030, rather than June 30, 2029;
- (6) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025, but making the authorization to contract a third-party consultant effective July 1, 2026; and
- (7) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 830, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 830, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Evslin, Hashem, Miyake and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Muraoka).

Senators Inouye, Chang, Gabbard, Kanuha, McKelvey and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (McKelvey).

Conf. Com. Rep. 238 on H.B. No. 778

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to conduct an integrated land use study for the use of lands within agricultural districts and submit interim and final reports to the Legislature;
- (2) Appropriate funds for the establishment of a planner position and other expenses to conduct the study; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for personnel costs and other expenses of the study.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$400,000 for the establishment of one full-time equivalent planner position and other expenses to conduct the integrated land use study;
- (2) Deleting the appropriation for personnel costs and other expenses of the integrated land use study;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 778, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 778, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Hashem, Lamosao and Souza.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Inouye, Gabbard, DeCoite, Elefante and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Gabbard, Elefante).

Conf. Com. Rep. 239 on H.B. No. 1007

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the Hawaii Community Development Authority to cooperate with or assist public and private sector entities to engage in projects that improve the State;
- (2) Recast the Transit-Oriented Development Infrastructure Improvement District as the Transit-Oriented Community Improvement Program and Board under the Hawaii Community Development Authority; and
- (3) Authorize the Hawaii Community Development Authority to issue an unspecified amount in revenue bonds, and appropriate an unspecified amount, to finance the development of infrastructure outside of the Hawaii Community Development Authority's community development districts.

Your Committee on Conference finds that this measure provides the Hawaii Community Development Authority with additional financing tools and flexibility to help the Authority provide community improvements, including projects in transit-oriented development areas. Your Committee on Conference further finds that this measure will improve the Authority's capability to deliver complete communities with lower housing and transportation costs, safer streets, public spaces, parks, and community amenities.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the composition of the Hawaii Community Development Authority by adding, for the purposes of administering part X of Chapter 206E, Hawaii Revised Statutes, only:
 - (A) Two experts on transit-oriented development, to be appointed one each by the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives;
 - (B) As ex officio, nonvoting members, the chairpersons of the respective Senate and House of Representatives standing committees having jurisdiction over transportation; and
 - (C) As ex officio, nonvoting members, the chairpersons of the respective Senate and House of Representatives standing committees having jurisdiction over housing;
- (2) Repealing the Transit-Oriented Development Infrastructure Improvement District Board and renaming the Transit-Oriented Community Improvement Program as the Transit-Oriented Development Infrastructure Improvement Program;
- (3) Transferring certain powers from Transit-Oriented Development Infrastructure Improvement District Boards to the Hawaii Community Development Authority;
- (4) Renaming the transit-oriented community improvement special fund as the transit-oriented development infrastructure improvement program special fund;
- (5) Authorizing the issuance of \$180,000,000 in revenue bonds, and appropriating the same sum for fiscal year 2025-2026 to carry out the purposes of Chapter 206E, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (6) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (7) Making technical nonsubstantive amendments for purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1007, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1007, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Hashem, Tarnas, Lamosao, Evslin and Shimizu.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Evslin).

Senators Lee, C., Aquino, Kanuha, DeCorte and Inouye.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kanuha).

Conf. Com. Rep. 240 on H.B. No. 1293

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Temporarily, until June 30, 2028:

- (A) Exempt, from the requirement to conduct procurements through the State's electronic system, Department of Education purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products costing less \$250,000;
 - (B) Require at least three written quotes for Department of Education purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products within a certain cost range; and
 - (C) Require at least two written quotes for Department of Education purchases for certain schools in rural communities of local edible products and packaged food products that are between a certain cost range; and
- (2) Appropriate \$20,000,000 to the Department of Education for fiscal year 2025-2026 to address the Food Services Program shortfall, as requested in Governor's Message No. 9.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that at least three written quotes is required for Department of Education purchases of local edible produce and packaged food products of less than \$250,000;
- (2) Deleting language that would require at least two written quotes for Department of Education purchases for certain schools in rural communities of local edible products and packaged food products that are between a certain cost range;
- (3) Removing the appropriation;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1293, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1293, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives La Chica, Morikawa and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Kidani, Kim, Kanuha and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 241 on H.B. No. 961

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a two-year pilot program for certified librarians to provide rotating support services to schools in one school complex on Oahu and one school complex on a neighbor island, to be determined by the Department of Education; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the positions.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$132,308 for the establishment of two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) twelve-month state office-level teacher positions under the Department of Education for the pilot program, to be allocated as follows:
 - (A) \$66,154 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) twelve-month state office-level teacher position, to be filled by a certified librarian, for a school complex on Oahu; and
 - (B) \$66,154 for one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) twelve-month state office-level teacher position, to be filled by a certified librarian, for a school complex on a neighbor island;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 961, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 961, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives La Chica, Takenouchi and Souza.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Kidani, Kim, Kanuha and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (DeCorte).

Conf. Com. Rep. 242 on H.B. No. 1153

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize supplemental allotments and transfers of unrequired balances for capital improvement program projects and establish a protocol fund with a cap of \$7,000 for each state principal department;
- (2) Make emergency appropriations and commensurate reductions to pay for anticipated operating shortfalls in the fourth quarter due to the limited ability to transfer funds between programs;
- (3) Authorize the Governor to use program savings and available funds for the purpose of temporarily maintaining critical federally funded state programs and positions;

- (4) Authorize transfers to the general fund of excess balances of various non-general funds from various state departments and agencies; and
- (5) Appropriate funds to the Office of the Governor for expenses and staff.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the transfers of excess balances of various non-general funds to the general fund from various state departments and agencies;
- (2) Deleting the appropriation to the Office of the Governor;
- (3) Transferring an amount in excess of the requirements of the State Educational Facilities Improvement Special Fund, repealed by Act 72, Session Laws of Hawaii 2020, to the general fund;
- (4) Changing the effective date to June 29, 2025; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1153, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1153, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takenouchi, Morikawa and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators McKelvey, Lee, C. and Hashimoto.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 243 on H.B. No. 794

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds and to make the constitutionally required findings that the bond issuance will not cause the state debt limit to be exceeded.

Your Committee on Conference finds that article VII, section 13, of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii requires the Legislature to include a declaration of findings in every general law authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds, which shall declare that the issuance of state bonds authorized will not cause the debt limit to be exceeded at the time of issuance. Your Committee on Conference further finds that the proceeds generated from the general obligation bonds authorized to be issued under this measure will be used to finance the fulfillment of important state objectives.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting the appropriate dollar amounts throughout the measure as provided by the Department of Budget and Finance;
- (2) Updating references to applicable dates and measure numbers that are cited in the measure;
- (3) Making it effective upon approval; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 794, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 794, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Yamashita, Kitagawa and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Moriwaki, Hashimoto and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 244 on H.B. No. 795

The purpose of this measure is to dispose of excess general fund revenues pursuant to Article VII, section 6 of the Hawaii State Constitution, by either:

- (1) Providing for an income tax credit of an unspecified amount to every qualifying resident individual taxpayer of the State;
- (2) Appropriating general revenues to make a deposit of an unspecified amount into the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund established pursuant to section 328L-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes; or
- (3) Appropriating general revenues to make a deposit of an unspecified amount into the Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust Fund established pursuant to section 87A-42, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the provisions that provide for an income tax credit to every qualifying resident individual taxpayer of the State and deposit into the Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust Fund;
- (2) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$1,000,000 in general revenues to be deposited into the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 795, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 795, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Yamashita, Takenouchi and Reyes Oda.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Hashimoto, Moriwaki and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 245 on H.B. No. 796

The purpose of this measure is to require that income tax credits existing on December 31, 2025, or established or renewed after December 31, 2025, include a five-year sunset or an annual one-third reduction, beginning with the sixth year of the credit.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 796, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 796, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Yamashita, Ilagan and Matsumoto.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3; Ayes with Reservations (Matsumoto). Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Hashimoto, Moriwaki and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 246 on H.B. No. 1173

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Taxation to:

- (1) State the assessment date on certificates of tax lien; and
- (2) Issue certificates of discharge when the tax liability on which a lien is based has been satisfied or has become unenforceable by lapse of time.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by changing the effective date to January 1, 2027.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1173, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1173, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Yamashita, Takenouchi and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Kim, Moriwaki and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 247 on H.B. No. 1369

The purpose of this measure is to amend and repeal certain credits, deductions, and exemptions under the income tax, general excise tax, and use tax laws.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the proposed amendments to and repeal of all credits, deductions, and exemptions except for general excise and use tax exemptions related to sugarcane producers, the use of certain vessels, and securities exchange fees, dues, and amounts received;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1369, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1369, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Yamashita, Takenouchi and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Hashimoto, Kim and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 248 on H.B. No. 1439

The purpose of this measure is to make an appropriation for the public employment cost items and cost adjustments for employees of the Senate, House of Representatives, and various legislative agencies who are excluded from collective bargaining.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Appropriating a total of \$1,143,594 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$2,030,952 for fiscal year 2026-2027 for the public employment cost items and cost adjustments for employees of the Senate, House of Representatives, and various legislative agencies who are excluded from collective bargaining; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1439, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1439, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Yamashita, Takenouchi and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Hashimoto, Kanuha and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kanuha).

Conf. Com. Rep. 249 on H.B. No. 1001

The purpose of this measure is to establish, and appropriate funds to, the Maui Wildfires Settlement Trust Fund to pay eligible claims pursuant to the Maui wildfires settlement agreements.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Appropriating \$400,000,000 for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$407,500,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027 to be deposited into the Maui Wildfires Settlement Trust Fund to fund the State's contribution to the settlement of claims related to the 2023 Maui wildfires and for the payment of administrative expenses relating to the Maui wildfires settlement agreements;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1001, H.D. 1, S.D. 3, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1001, H.D. 1, S.D. 3, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Tarnas, Yamashita, Poepoe, Takenouchi and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators Rhoads, Chang, Wakai and Awa.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Awa).

Conf. Com. Rep. 250 on H.B. No. 987

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the State Procurement Automation System Special Fund to receive transaction fees from the procurement automation system to pay for the system's administration, management, operation, maintenance, and upgrade; and
- (2) Add the Executive Director of the School Facilities Authority as the Chief Procurement Officer for the School Facilities Authority in the Hawaii Public Procurement Code.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by changing the effective date to upon approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 987, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 987, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Woodson, Morikawa and Muraoka.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators McKelvey, Kim, Moriwaki and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 251 on H.B. No. 329

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Specify that the School Facilities Authority is responsible for projects related to:
 - (A) Certain facilities for prekindergarten, preschool, child care, and early learning programs;
 - (B) Workforce housing, under certain conditions;

- (C) Construction projects on other state or county property, as authorized by the Legislature; and
- (D) Any public school development, planning, or construction assigned by the Legislature, Governor, or Board of Education;
- (2) Authorize the School Facilities Authority to partner with public and private development agencies to develop prekindergarten facilities; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for the planning and construction of:
 - (A) A new middle school in Central Maui;
 - (B) A new elementary school in Lahaina; and
 - (C) A teacher housing project in Mililani.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing language that:
 - (A) Authorizes workforce housing for educators and other education works to be constructed on school property or other property;
 - (B) Clarifies that the School Facility Authority is responsible for construction projects on other state or county property, as authorized by the Legislature; and
 - (C) Clarifies that the School Facilities Authority is not responsible for the repair and maintenance of any Department of Education facilities;
- (2) Allowing the School Facilities Authority to use the Department of Education for certain recruitment and hiring responsibilities;
- (3) Clarifying that the School Facilities Authority may partner with public and private development agencies to develop prekindergarten, preschool, child care, and early learning program facilities;
- (4) Changing the appropriation for the planning and construction of a new middle school in Central Maui to \$2,000,000;
- (5) Inserting an appropriation of \$2,000,000 for the planning and construction of a workforce housing project in Mililani;
- (6) Removing the appropriation for the planning and construction of:
 - (A) A new elementary school in Lahaina; and
 - (B) A teacher housing project in Mililani;
- (7) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 329, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 329, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Woodson, Poepoe, Miyake, La Chica and Souza.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Poepoe).

Senators Kidani, Lee, C., Chang and DeCorte.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 252 on H.B. No. 700

The purpose of this measure is to improve the detection and treatment of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias in Hawaii by:

- (1) Establishing, with certain exceptions, standardized cognitive assessments for qualified Medicare beneficiaries;
- (2) Establishing a two-year Dementia Data Pilot Program within the Executive Office on Aging to collect and analyze cognitive assessment data;
- (3) Requiring the Executive Office on Aging to report de-identified aggregated cognitive assessment data to the Legislature; and
- (4) Appropriating funds for data management and reporting requirements.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the the Executive Office on Aging is required to submit a report to the Legislature twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Sessions of 2027 and 2028;
- (2) Deleting the requirement that the cognitive assessments use diagnostic tests approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration and covered by Medicare;
- (3) Deleting the appropriation;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 700, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 700, H.D. 1, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Marten, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Chun and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 5. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators San Buenaventura, Moriwiki, Keohokalole and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.
Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).

Conf. Com. Rep. 253 on H.B. No. 1482

The purpose of this measure is to strengthen the regulatory and enforcement framework governing hemp-derived cannabinoids by:

- (1) Beginning January 1, 2026, requiring manufactured hemp product distributors and manufactured hemp product retailers to obtain certificates of registration from the Department of Health;
- (2) Establishing the offense of unlawful hemp retailing and distribution;
- (3) Specifying the authority to inspect businesses engaged in the distribution and sale of, and authority to seize or confiscate, products containing or derived from hemp;
- (4) Specifying that the offense of unlawful hemp retailing and distribution is subject to nuisance abatement proceedings;
- (5) Establishing that a violation of the hemp processor laws constitutes an unfair or deceptive act or practice and unfair method of competition subject to a civil penalty;
- (6) Authorizing the Hawaii Hemp Processing Special Fund to be used to establish the registry of manufactured hemp product distributors and manufactured hemp product retailers;
- (7) Authorizing the Office of Medical Cannabis Control and Regulation to administer the Hemp Processors Program;
- (8) Establishing that every building, premises, or place used for the purpose of violating the hemp processors law is a nuisance subject to abatement; and
- (9) Appropriating funds.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that certificates of registration are valid for five years, rather than one year;
- (2) Deleting the exemption from the registration requirements for persons holding a valid United States Department of Agriculture license to grow hemp;
- (3) Specifying that a person holding a hemp processor permit shall be issued a certificate of registration that is valid for a period coterminous with the permit and shall be exempt from the fees;
- (4) Prohibiting the sale of tinctures to persons under twenty-one years of age;
- (5) Lowering the allowable volume for a tincture from two ounces to one ounce;
- (6) Deleting the appropriations;
- (7) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (8) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1482, H.D. 1, S.D. 3, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1482, H.D. 1, S.D. 3, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Matayoshi, Tarnas, Takenouchi and Pierick.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Pierick).

Senators San Buenaventura, Keohokalole, Gabbard, Kim, Hashimoto and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 2 (Gabbard, Hashimoto).

Conf. Com. Rep. 254 on H.B. No. 712

The purpose of this measure is to preserve the integrity of the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program by:

- (1) Prohibiting drug manufacturers from denying, restricting, or prohibiting the acquisition, shipping, or delivery of a 340B drug to a pharmacy under contract with any 340B covered entity in the State;
- (2) Authorizing 340B covered entities and the Attorney General to bring a civil action for enforcement within four years of a violation;
- (3) Requiring each 340B covered entity to report certain information annually to the Department of Health; and
- (4) Requiring the Department of Health to prepare, submit to the Legislature, and publicly post annual reports and publicly post all reports submitted by 340B covered entities.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Authorizing manufacturers to request claims data for the manufacturer's 340B drugs dispensed through a contract pharmacy arrangement under certain circumstances;
- (2) Amending the reporting requirements for 340B covered entities by:
 - (A) Requiring 340B covered entities to report to the hospital trade association operating in the State, rather than the Department of Health;
 - (B) Limiting the reporting to activities related to the dispensing or filling of 340B drugs at contract pharmacies; and
 - (C) Deleting certain provisions relating to a 340B covered entity's costs and payments;
- (3) Requiring the hospital trade association operating in the State to prepare and publicly post an annual aggregate report, rather than the Department of Health;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and

(5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 712, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 712, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Matayoshi, Poepoe, Takenouchi and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garcia).

Senators San Buenaventura, Keohokalole, Aquino, Chang and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Chang).

Conf. Com. Rep. 255 on H.B. No. 302

The purpose of this measure is to make various amendments to the medical use of cannabis and medical cannabis dispensaries laws by:

- (1) Amending the definition of "debilitating medical condition";
- (2) Authorizing the sale of hemp products and accessories to the use of medical cannabis in a medical cannabis dispensary waiting room;
- (3) Authorizing the establishment of a provider-patient relationship via telehealth for purposes of issuing written certifications and limiting the maximum fee a provider may assess for issuing a written certification;
- (4) Clarifying the transportation requirements for certain types of dispensary-to-dispensary purchases of cannabis or manufactured cannabis products;
- (5) Beginning January 1, 2027:
 - (A) Establish criminal penalties for the unlicensed operation of a medical cannabis dispensary; and
 - (B) Prohibit the cultivation of cannabis without a license issued by the Department of Health; and
- (6) Authorize expenditures from the Medical Cannabis Registry and Regulation Special Fund to fund programs for the mitigation and abatement of nuisances related to medical cannabis dispensaries and appropriate funds to the Attorney General's Drug Nuisance Abatement Unit for these purposes.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Reverting to the existing statutory definition of "debilitating medical condition";
- (2) Authorizing the Department of Health to inspect a qualifying patient's medical records that are held by the physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or hospice provider who issued a written certification for the qualifying patient;
- (3) Amending the definitions of "qualifying patient" and "written certification" and adding a definition for "primary treating medical provider";
- (4) Clarifying the conditions of use for the medical use of cannabis;
- (5) Authorizing the sale of hemp products and accessories to the medical use of cannabis at retail dispensing locations, except in the waiting room;
- (6) Establishing criminal penalties for the unlicensed operation of a medical cannabis dispensary beginning July 1, 2025, rather than January 1, 2027;
- (7) Authorizing expenditures from the Medical Cannabis Registry and Regulation Special Fund to fund programs for the mitigation and abatement of nuisances related to illegal cannabis and hemp products as well as medical cannabis dispensaries;
- (8) Inserting an appropriation of \$750,000 from the Medical Cannabis Registry and Regulation Special Fund for the mitigation and abatement of nuisances related to illegal cannabis and hemp products and medical cannabis dispensaries, including the establishment of positions;
- (9) Prohibiting the cultivation of cannabis without a license issued by the Department of Health beginning January 1, 2028, rather than January 1, 2027, and deleting certain provisions relating to the maximum number of cannabis cultivator licenses and maximum plant canopy size;
- (10) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (11) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 302, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 302, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Matayoshi, Tarnas, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Chun and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 6. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators San Buenaventura, Keohokalole, Gabbard, Moriwaki and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Gabbard).

Conf. Com. Rep. 256 on H.B. No. 1462

The purpose of this measure is to expand the Crisis Intervention and Diversion Services Program to include at least two sites on the island of Oahu, including one site in an area with a disproportionate number of individuals with mental health conditions, substance use disorders, or homelessness, and appropriate funds for this purpose.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring one crisis intervention and diversion services site on Oahu to be in an area with a disproportionate number of individuals with mental health disorders or co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders, or both, rather than an area with a disproportionate number of individuals with mental health conditions, substance use disorders, or homelessness;

- (2) Authorizing the use of intensive mobile treatment services as part of the Crisis Intervention and Diversion Services Program;
- (3) Deleting the appropriation;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1462, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1462, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Marten, Takenouchi, Kila and Garcia.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Garcia).

Senators San Buenaventura, Moriwaki, Hashimoto and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Hashimoto).

Conf. Com. Rep. 257 on H.B. No. 441

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Beginning January 1, 2026, increase the cigarette tax from sixteen cents to eighteen cents;
- (2) Allocate the increase in the cigarette tax amount to be deposited into the Hawaii Cancer Research Special Fund; and
- (3) Require all cigarette tax revenues allocated to the Hawaii Cancer Research Special Fund to be used exclusively for debt service of capital expenditures and building maintenance until June 30, 2041.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that all cigarette tax revenues allocated to the Hawaii Cancer Research Special Fund be used exclusively for debt service of capital expenditures and building maintenance until June 30, 2030, rather than June 30, 2041;
- (2) Requiring that, beginning July 1, 2030, of each amount deposited into the Hawaii Cancer Research Special Fund, two cents per cigarette shall be used exclusively for debt service of capital expenditures and building maintenance;
- (3) Changing the effective date to December 31, 2025; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 441, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 441, H.D. 2, S.D. 2, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Garrett, Keohokapu-Lee Loy and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Senators San Buenaventura, Kim, Kanuha and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 258 on H.B. No. 237

The purpose of this measure is to support parents and caregivers of children from birth to five years of age by appropriating funds to the Family Health Services Division of the Department of Health to establish and oversee peer-to-peer support programs.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$860,000 for the Family Health Services Division, to be allocated as follows:
 - (A) \$200,000 for one full-time equivalent Program Specialist V position and one full-time equivalent Program Specialist IV position;
 - (B) \$270,000 for purchase of service contracts with neighborhood or location peer-to-peer based groups; and
 - (C) \$390,000 for purchase of service contracts for addiction and child welfare peer support programs; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 237, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 237, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Marten, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Kitagawa and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Kitagawa).

Senators San Buenaventura, Moriwaki and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 3. Noes, none. Excused, none.

Conf. Com. Rep. 259 on H.B. No. 474

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Health for the Department's current Fall Prevention Campaign.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an appropriation of \$100,000 for the Department of Health's current Fall Prevention Campaign;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2025; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 474, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 474, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Signed by the Chairs on behalf of the Committee.

Representatives Takayama, Keohokapu-Lee Loy, Chun, Lee, M. and Alcos.

Managers on the part of the House.

Ayes, 4. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Alcos).

Senators San Buenaventura, Kanuha and Fevella.

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Ayes, 2. Noes, none. Excused, 1 (Fevella).