

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 690

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 04 2021

RE: S.B. No. 157

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2021
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred S.B. No. 157 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LICENSING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to authorize the issuance of a civil license to solemnize marriage and allow solemnization by any individual at least eighteen years of age.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health, LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that, although marriage in the United States is a civil institution and the right to marry belongs to citizens without regard to their moral beliefs or religious creed, officiants ordained by a religious denomination or society are the only ones besides justices, judges, and magistrates who are authorized to officiate a wedding. Your Committee further finds that while those with a religious affiliation may have a trusted pastor or minister officiate their wedding, those without religious affiliation are legally unable to have a trusted friend or mentor as an officiant. This measure will increase fairness and parity by authorizing those not affiliated with a religion to solemnize marriages.



As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 157 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

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

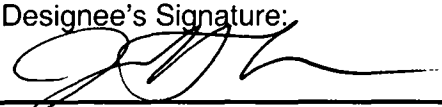


KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-First Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary
JDC

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 157	Committee Referral: JDC	Date: 2/23/21		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓			
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett (VC)	✓			
ACASIO, Laura	✓			
GABBARD, Mike	✓			
KIM, Donna Mercado	✓			
LEE, Chris	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
TOTAL	7	—	—	—
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes