

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **3280**

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 22 2024

RE: H.B. No. 2174
H.D. 2
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2024
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs and Water and Land, to which was referred H.B. No. 2174, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO SEARCH AND RESCUE,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Repeal the existing conditions under which government entities may seek reimbursement for search or rescue expenses and instead require a government entity of the State to impose and collect a fee for search or rescue expenses for persons who require rescue after leaving a hiking trail to enter an area closed to the public or hiking on a trail closed to the public, with a sign giving notice of the closure; and
- (2) Require a report or documentation of the search and rescue to be submitted to the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement and four individuals.



Your Committees find that search and rescue operations for hikers who go on illegal or prohibited hikes cost the State and counties thousands of dollars per incident. Your Committees further find that as more people are participating in outdoor activities in recent years, the number of emergency rescue calls has also increased. Your Committees recognize that search and rescue operations are dangerous for first responders and taxing on state resources. This measure will allow the State and counties to seek reimbursement for these rescues from hikers who knowingly proceed on illegal hikes.

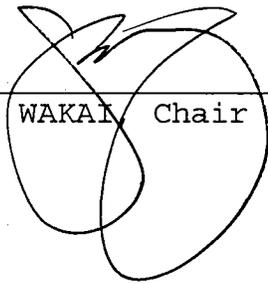
Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2042, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs and Water and Land that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2174, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2174, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committees on Judiciary and Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Public Safety and
Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs and Water and Land,


LORRAINE R. INOUYE, Chair


GLENN WAKAI, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Second Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
PSM

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB 2174 HD2	Committee Referral: PSM/WTL, JDC/WAM	Date: 3/20/24		
<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 type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
WAKAI, Glenn (C)	✓			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C. (VC)	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol	✓			
RHOADS, Karl	✓			
AWA, Brenton				✓
TOTAL	4	0	0	1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align:center; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

***Only one measure per Record of Votes**

