

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3172

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 21 2024

RE: H.B. No. 2805
H.D. 1
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 Higher Education and Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 2805, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate funds for the University of Hawaii to conduct a multiethnic cohort study and develop and maintain a registry regarding the health effects of the August 2023 Maui wildfires.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health, Department of Human Services, University of Hawai'i System, Hawaii Medical Service Association, Roots Reborn, American Lung Association Hawai'i, Hawai'i Psychological Association, Hawai'i Health C.A.R.E. Hui, Hawaii Medical Association, Hawai'i Public Health Association, Hawai'i Public Health Institute, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, 'Ahahui o nā Kauka, Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition of Hawaii, Mental Health America of Hawai'i, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Hawaii, and twenty individuals.

Your Committees find that the effects of the August 2023 Maui wildfires created long-term health risks to the impacted communities. However, the gravity of short- and long-term health



risks remain largely unknown, creating uncertainty for policy, resources, and overall needs for Maui residents. The data collected from the multiethnic cohort study proposed by this measure will provide public health workers with valuable insight to understand the unique needs of Maui residents and guide resource allocation and prevention activities.

Your Committees further find that, according to the University of Hawaii's testimony, the University of Hawaii Economic Research Organization has collaborated with the John A. Burns School of Medicine, other university units, and community agencies to commence initial stages of the Maui Wildfire Exposure Study, including recruitment of nearly seven hundred participants for the exposure study to initiate diagnostic tests. While the study has collected samples, health screening information, and social aspects of participants, additional funding is needed to analyze the samples for toxins such as heavy metals and for additional recruitment efforts. Additionally, the creation of a registry is a one-time cost to inform participants of any intervention recommended by the Department of Health or public health advisories while analyzing potential health risks through existing medical records. Your Committees note that the Maui Wildfire Exposure Study is awaiting results from federal grants and intends to pursue additional federal and community funding. Therefore, this measure will provide additional support to resume initial data analysis while recruiting additional participants to further understand the short- and long-term impacts of the August 2023 Maui wildfires.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the University of Hawaii to seek matching, or more, federal and community funding, in addition to appropriations, to complete the multiethnic cohort study and registry; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Higher Education and Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose



of H.B. No. 2805, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2805, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committees on Higher Education and Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs,



GLENN WAKAI, Chair



DONNA MERCADO KIM, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Second Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Higher Education
HRE

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
HB 2805 HD1	HRE/PSM1, WAM	03-13-24

The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
 If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312
 Pass, with amendments 2311
 Hold 2310
 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KIM, Donna Mercado (C)	✓			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)				✓
FUKUNAGA, Carol	✓			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
TOTAL	4			1

Recommendation: Adopted 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**

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 2805 HDI	Committee Referral: HRE/RSM, WAM	Date: 3/13/24		
<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	5	0	0	0
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