

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 20 2023

RE: H.B. No. 824  
H.D. 2

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-Second State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2023  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 824, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MEDICAL RELEASE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to create a medical or compassionate release program for certain ill or impaired inmates who pose a low risk to public safety.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Public Safety, Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission, and five individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii Paroling Authority.

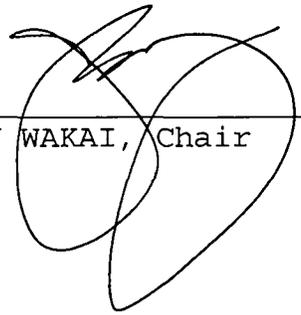
Your Committee finds that compassionate release allows inmates who have complex medical needs to spend their remaining days outside of jail or prison in the company of their family and friends. Inmates with complex medical needs are not only some of the costliest individuals to house within jails and prisons, but are also the least likely to pose any threat to society once released. Your Committee believes that inmates should be released when they are too debilitated to commit further crimes, too compromised to benefit from rehabilitation, or too impaired to be aware of punishment. This measure will reduce the prison



population, reduce costs to the Department of Public Safety, and elevate a level of humanity in corrections that aligns with a rehabilitative and therapeutic model.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 824, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Public Safety and  
Intergovernmental and Military  
Affairs,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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.:* <b>HB824 HD2</b>	Committee Referral: <b>PSM, JDC</b>	Date: <b>3/15/23</b>		
<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
WAKAI, Glenn (C)	✓			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C. (VC)	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol				✓
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K.	✓			
AWA, Brenton			✓	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original     Yellow     Pink     Goldenrod File with Committee Report     Clerk's Office     Drafting Agency     Committee File Copy				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes