

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

2769

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 29 2024

RE: S.B. No. 2476

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, to which was referred S.B. No. 2476 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DENTAL HYGIENISTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to authorize licensed dental hygienists to perform preventative dental sealant screenings and apply dental sealants on individuals, under certain conditions, in a Department of Education school-based oral health program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education; Department of Health; Disability and Communication Access Board; Board of Dentistry; University of Hawai'i System; We Are One, Inc.; Hawaii Dental Association; Hawai'i Oral Health Coalition; Hawaii Dental Service; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; AlohaCare; and forty-six individuals.

Your Committee finds that the State is not providing sufficient resources to help individuals prevent tooth decay, which can increase health care costs for many families. Your Committee further finds that school-based dental sealant programs provide sealants to children least likely to receive them otherwise. Studies have shown that tooth decay of molars dropped an average of sixty percent up to five years after sealant application in a school program. Sealants also prevent decay at



one-third the expense of filling a cavity. This measure will significantly reduce the labor costs of a dentist performing dental sealant screenings in schools and eliminate an expensive barrier to promote and sustain school-based sealant and oral health programs.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2476 and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection,




JARRETT KEOHOKALOLE, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-Second Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection**  
**CPN**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB 2476</b>	Committee Referral: <b>EDU, CPN</b>	Date: <b>2/20/24</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
KEOHOKALOPE, Jarrett (C)	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol (VC)	✓			
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K.				✓
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim"	✓			
AWA, Brenton	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</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