

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2519

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 16 2024

RE: S.B. No. 263
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 Hawaiian Affairs and Health and Human Services, to which was referred S.B. No. 263 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE STATE COUNCIL ON MENTAL HEALTH,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the State Council on Mental Health to include an unspecified number of members with demonstrated knowledge of or work experience involving Native Hawaiian health practices; and
- (2) Require council members to receive annual training on topics related to Native Hawaiian healing and health.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the State Council on Mental Health, The Queen's Health System, and three individuals.

Your Committees find that Native Hawaiians experience distinct mental health disparities that pervade their day-to-day well-being and hinder their overall health. Native Hawaiian youth and emerging adults experience mental health crises to a greater degree than their Caucasian peers. Unsurprisingly, the mental health disparities that Native Hawaiians experience continue into



old age. Your Committees also find that Native Hawaiians tend to underutilize existing mental health services and that this may be consequent to cultural incongruence with Western mental health practices. This measure prioritizes the mental health of Native Hawaiians and will provide Native Hawaiians with mental health care that is congruent to their values and beliefs.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have required an unspecified number of members to meet certain work and experience requirements involving traditional Native Hawaiian concepts to be appointed to the State Mental Health Council;
- (2) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose; and
- (3) 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 Hawaiian Affairs and Health and Human Services that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 263, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 263, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Hawaiian Affairs
and Health and Human Services,



JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Chair



MAILE S.L. SHIMABUKURO, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Second Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
HWN

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 263	Committee Referral: HWN/HAS, JDC	Date: 02/13/2024
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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
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L. (C)	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt (VC)	X			
IHARA, Jr., Les				X
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett	X			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim"				X
TOTAL	3			2

Recommendation:
 Adopted
 Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:
Kurt Fevela

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*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate
 Thirty-Second Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Health and Human Services
HHS

Bill / Resolution No.:	Committee Referral:	Date:
SB 263	HWN/HHS, JDC	2/13/24

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
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A. (C)	/			
AQUINO, Henry J.C. (VC)	/			
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett	/			
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.	/			
AWA, Brenton				/
TOTAL	4			

Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature: 

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