

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

458

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 12 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 1159
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Public Safety, to which was referred H.B. No. 1159, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO COMMERCIAL HARBORS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require masters or persons in charge of vessels to follow an order by a harbor master to evacuate a commercial harbor during emergencies;
- (2) Establish higher penalties for noncompliance with evacuation orders; and
- (3) Require fines collected for violations to be paid into the Harbor Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation and Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Harbors Users Group.

Your Committee finds that during times of emergency, it is essential that commercial harbor users evacuate the State's commercial harbors when ordered to do so by the harbor master.

2025-1626 HB1159 HD1 HSCR HMSO



Your Committee notes the concerns raised in written testimony that smaller vessels may face danger if required to evacuate and be forced out into the open sea.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1159, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Public Safety,

DELLA AU BELATTI

DELLA AU BELATTI, Chair



