

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

749

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 14 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 594
H.D. 2

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

Madame:

Your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 594, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOTELS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require hotelkeepers to provide adequate notice of service disruptions to guests and third-party vendors under certain conditions; and
- (2) Allow for recovery of damages by injured consumers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State AFL-CIO and UNITE HERE Local 5. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Kohala Coast Resort Association.

Your Committee finds travelers staying in hotels are often vulnerable to service disruptions that they may not be aware of at the time of booking. To protect travelers and maintain the vitality of the tourism sector, your Committee believes that it is essential for hotels to notify guests of potential disruptions and allow them to cancel reservations without penalty.

2025-1894 HB594 HD2 HSCR HMSO



Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the circumstances under which a guest may terminate any remaining period of a reservation, booking, or agreement for the use of a room or hotel service without being assessed a fee, penalty, or other charge or forfeiting certain deposits;
- (2) Amending the amount of damages that a hotelkeeper must pay to an injured consumer;
- (3) Deleting language that would have established a private right of action by an injured consumer;
- (4) Clarifying that the term "guest" includes hotel service users; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 594, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 594, H.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary &
Hawaiian Affairs,

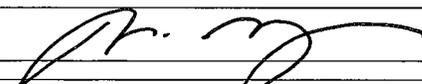


DAVID A. TARNAS, Chair



HB 594 748

Record of Votes of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 594 HD1	Committee Referral: TOU, JHA, CPC	Date: 02/13/2025		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
JHA Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. TARNAS, David A. (C)	✓			
2. POEPOE, Mahina (VC)	✓			
3. BELATTI, Della Au	✓			
4. COCHRAN, Elle				✓
5. HASHEM, Mark J.	✓			
6. KAHALOA, Kirstin	✓			
7. PERRUSO, Amy A.	✓			
8. TAKAYAMA, Gregg	✓			
9. TODD, Chris	✓			
10. GARCIA, Diamond	✓			
11. SHIMIZU, Garner M.		✓		
TOTAL (11)	9	1	0	1
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. _____ committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: 				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				