

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1463

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 21 , 2025

RE: S.B. No. 1225
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 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 1225 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE XVII, SECTION 3 OF THE HAWAII CONSTITUTION TO SPECIFY THAT THE STANDARD FOR VOTER APPROVAL OF A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE LEGISLATURE IS A MAJORITY OF ALL THE VOTES TALLIED UPON THE QUESTION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to propose an amendment to article XVII, section 3 of the Hawaii State Constitution regarding the standard for ratification of a constitutional amendment proposed by the Legislature, to require that a majority of all the votes tallied upon the question be a "yes" vote, and not include blank, spoiled, and over votes in determining whether a majority was reached.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission; Pride at Work - Hawai'i; Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Common Cause Hawaii; and nine individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaii Patriot Republicans and numerous individuals.

2025-2610 SB1225 HD1 HSCR HMSO



Your Committee finds that the amendments proposed by this measure will ensure that only definite "yes" or "no" votes are counted for constitutional amendment ballot questions, accurately reflecting voter intent and promoting a fair democratic process.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Amending the ballot question;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) 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 S.B. No. 1225, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1225, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

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



DAVID A. TARNAS, Chair



