

Honolulu, Hawaii

**FEB 14 2025**

RE: S.B. No. 297

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2025  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health and Human Services, to which was referred S.B. No. 297 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT PROPOSING A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF HAWAII TO PROTECT THE RIGHT TO REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to amend the Hawaii State Constitution to prohibit the State from denying or interfering with an individual's reproductive freedom, including the right to choose to obtain an abortion and to obtain or use contraceptives.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from AAUW of Hawaii, Indivisible Hawai'i, Education Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Save Medicaid Hawaii, UNITE HERE Local 5, Pacific Birth Collective, Hawai'i Health and Harm Reduction Center, and eighty-two individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawaii Family Forum, Americans United for Life, Hawai'i Christian Coalition, and fifty-two individuals.


Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.



Your Committee finds that reproductive care is an essential form of health care. Your Committee further finds that consistent with all medical matters, health care decisions regarding abortion should be made by patients in consultation with their health care providers and without undue interference by outside parties. This measure enshrines the fundamental right to reproductive freedom in the Hawaii State Constitution, safeguarding reproductive freedom against potential future legislative threats.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health and Human Services that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 297 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committees on Judiciary and Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Health and Human  
Services,

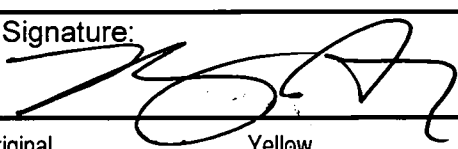


JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Chair



The Senate  
Thirty-Third Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Health and Human Services**  
**HHS**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">SB297</div>	Committee Referral: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">HHS, JDC/WAM</div>	Date: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">2/5/25</div>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313         </div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A. (C)	✓			
AQUINO, Henry J.C. (VC)	✓			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	✓			
KEOHOKALOOLE, Jarrett	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	4			1
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted         <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted         </div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive; text-align: center;">  </div>				
Distribution: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 5px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">Original File with Committee Report</div> <div style="text-align: center;">Yellow Clerk's Office</div> <div style="text-align: center;">Pink Drafting Agency</div> <div style="text-align: center;">Goldenrod Committee File Copy</div> </div>				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes