

Honolulu, Hawaii

**FEB 14 2025**

RE: S.B. No. 709  
S.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Health and Human Services and Judiciary,  
to which was referred S.B. No. 709 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Health to track and publicly report certain data relating to crisis reports, emergency mental health transports, and court-ordered treatments;
- (2) Require the Department of Health to respond to reports about persons with a severe mental illness who are in need of assistance, assess whether those persons fulfill criteria for assisted community treatment, and coordinate the process for an assisted community treatment order if indicated;
- (3) Establish that a court's denial of a petition for involuntary commitment shall serve as notification to the Department of Health that the subject of the petition should be evaluated for assisted community treatment; and
- (4) Appropriate funds.



Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Institute for Human Services, Inc.; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; and three individuals.

Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Judiciary and Department of Health.

Your Committees find that residents suffering from mental illness are especially vulnerable and in need of services. Your Committees further find that improved tracking of the usage of emergency and care services will allow service providers to best identify and address those in need of treatment. This measure requires the Department of Health lead the effort to improve information sharing of providers in the State's care system to deliver safe, coordinated care to some of the State's most vulnerable individuals.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Inserting an effective date of December 31, 2050; 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 Health and Human Services and Judiciary that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 709, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 709, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.



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



KARL RHOADS, Chair



JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Chair



The Senate  
Thirty-Third Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

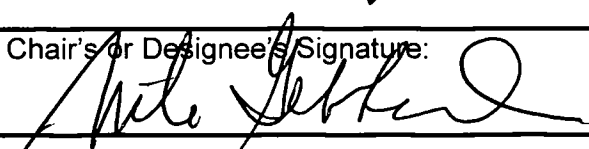
**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Health and Human Services**  
**HHS**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">SB 709</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;">2/13/25</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 type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended <small>2312</small></div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments <small>2311</small></div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Hold <small>2310</small></div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Recommit <small>2313</small></div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A. (C)	✓			
AQUINO, Henry J.C. (VC)	✓			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.				✓
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett				✓
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	3			2
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:				
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

The Senate  
Thirty-Third Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes  
Committee on Judiciary  
JDC

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<div> <input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.          If so, then the previous decision was to: _____       </div>				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312         </div> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311         </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310         </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313         </div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)	✓			
CHANG, Stanley	✓			
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.	✓			
AWA, Brenton	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	5	—	—	—
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted         </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted         </div> </div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Distribution:</div> <div>Original</div> <div>Yellow</div> <div>Pink</div> <div>Goldenrod</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.7em; margin-top: 5px;"> <div>File with Committee Report</div> <div>Clerk's Office</div> <div>Drafting Agency</div> <div>Committee File Copy</div> </div>				

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