

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1583

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 02 2025

RE: S.R. No. 42
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 Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs and Health and Human Services, to which was referred S.R. No. 42 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION URGING COUNTIES TO INSTALL SPECIAL NEEDS RECREATIONAL PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT IN PARK PLAYGROUNDS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to urge the counties of the State to install a minimal set of special needs recreational playground equipment in each playground located in a county park.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Disability and Communication Access Board, Hawaii Disability Rights Center, Autism Moms of Kona, and three individuals.

Your Committees received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committees find that there is a segment of the State's youth that are unable to use some playgrounds on county property. According to testimony received by your Committees, this measure could provide many benefits as it not only supports physical activity for sensory and nervous system regulation and encourages functional speech and communication through naturalistic play, but



also encourages the inclusion and integration of youth with disabilities and their caregivers in the communities. This measure aims to ensure equal access for all of Hawaii's youth at each playground in a county park.

Your Committees note the Legislature's commitment to the inclusion of youth with disabilities in important socialization events and believe that it is not only important to ensure equal access of these formative recreational areas but to also ensure their long-term safety, cleanliness, and functionality. Your Committees further note concerns from the Hawaii Disability Rights Center regarding the potential costs to ensure that all county parks comply with the 2010 Americans with Disabilities Act Standards for Accessible Design. Amendments to this measure are therefore necessary to address these issues.

Accordingly, your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Expanding the scope of the measure to apply to youths with physical, developmental, or intellectual disabilities, instead of only youth with physical disabilities;
- (2) Replacing the phrase "special needs recreational playground equipment" with "accessible recreational playground equipment";
- (3) Urging the counties to establish comprehensive maintenance plans that ensure the long-term safety, cleanliness, and functionality of each playground;
- (4) Requesting the counties' comprehensive maintenance plans to include certain key components relating to regular inspections, preventive maintenance, cleaning and sanitation, accessibility assurance, emergency repairs, and community engagements;
- (5) Requesting the Department of Education and the Department of Accounting and General Services to convene a working group that includes the counties to create an inventory of all existing and planned state and county playgrounds; identify different types of accessible recreational playground equipment, and the cost to



purchase, install, and maintain such equipment; and provide recommendations for how the State and counties should add accessible recreational playground equipment into their existing or future playgrounds;

- (6) Amending its title accordingly; and
- (7) 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 Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs and Health and Human Services that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 42, as amended herein, and recommend its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.R. No. 42, S.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Energy and
Intergovernmental Affairs and
Health and Human Services,



JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Chair



GLENN WAKAI, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Third Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs
EIG

Bill / Resolution No.:* SR42	Committee Referral: EIG/HHS	Date: 4/1/25		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
WAKAI, Glenn (C)	✓			
CHANG, Stanley (VC)	✓			
DECOITE, Lynn				✓
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim"	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt				✓
TOTAL	3			2
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

