

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **3200**

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 25 2026

RE: H.B. No. 1700
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2026
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs, Health and Human Services, and Housing, to which was referred H.B. No. 1700, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to include housing projects for individuals with disabilities and individuals with access and functional needs as eligible projects to apply for expedited permits.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Disability and Communication Access Board, one member of the Kaua'i County Council, Navian Hawaii, Housing Hawai'i's Future, Hawaii Disability Rights Center, Aloha Independent Living Hawaii, Fuller Lives, ALS Network, and four individuals.

Your Committees find that for individuals with disabilities, stable and accessible housing is foundational to health, independence, employment, and community integration. Delays in permitting can prolong housing insecurity, delay development of accessible units, and limit opportunities for people to live in the least restrictive, most appropriate community settings. By addressing systemic permitting inefficiencies, this measure



recognizes that disability-inclusive housing is essential community infrastructure and strengthens the State's commitment to inclusive, community-based housing opportunities.

Your Committees acknowledge the concerns raised in testimony by Aloha Independent Living Hawaii that expedited permitting should not compromise compliance with federal regulation, such as the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Fair Housing Act. Your Committees further acknowledge that because this measure repeals in 2031, including reporting requirements on certain information during the effective period will allow the Legislature to evaluate the effectiveness of this measure and ensure it advances equity goals. Accordingly, amendments to this measure are necessary to address these concerns.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that any housing projects approved for expedited permits for individuals with disabilities and individuals with access and functional needs shall comply with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Fair Housing Act;
- (2) Inserting language to require each county to submit a report to the Legislature prior to the Regular Session of 2032, evaluating expedited permitting for housing projects for individuals with disabilities and individuals with access and functional needs; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

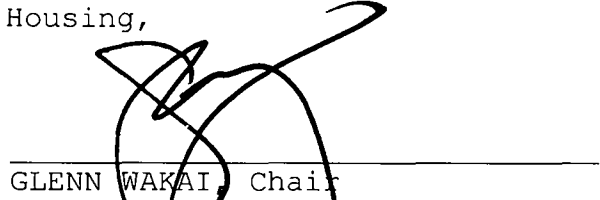
As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs, Health and Human Services, and Housing that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1700, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1700, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.



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



JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Chair



GLENN WAKAI, Chair




STANLEY CHANG, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Third Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs
EIG

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB1700, HD1	EIG/HHS/HOU, JDC	3/19/20		
<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 File with Committee Report Committee Drafting Agency				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

