

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 10 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 Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred H.B. No. 1700, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Include housing projects for individuals with disabilities and individuals with access and functional needs as eligible projects to apply for expedited permits; and
- (2) Require reports to the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Disability and Communication Access Board, Hawaii Disability Rights Center, Navian Hawaii, Housing Hawai'i's Future, Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce, and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that individuals with disabilities and those with access and functional needs often face significant barriers in securing adequate housing due to longer project timelines and permitting delays. Existing expedited permit processes do not explicitly include these populations, which can



slow the delivery of urgently needed accessible housing. This measure recognizes disability-inclusive housing as essential community infrastructure and will help communities better meet the housing needs of these populations.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1700, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary,




KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary
JDC

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
HB 1700 HOI SDI	EJG/HHS/HW, JDC	9/7/26
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313		
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)
Nay	Excused	
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓	
GABBARD, Mike (VC)	✓	
CHANG, Stanley	✓	
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.	✓	
AWA, Brenton		✓
TOTAL	4	—
—	—	1
Recommendation:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted		
Chair's or Designee's Signature:		
		
Distribution:		
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Committee	Pink Drafting Agency

*Only one measure per Record of Votes