STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3167

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 25 2026

RE: H.B. No. 1853
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 Health and Human Services, to which was referred H.B. No. 1853, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DEMENTIA,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

(1) Establish the Hanai Memory Network Program within the Executive Office on Aging to create a network of dementia care specialists and support systems to assist individuals with dementia and their caregivers; and

(2) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Health Planning and Development Agency; Disability and Communication Access Board; AARP Hawai'i; Alzheimer's Association-Hawaii; Hawaii Council of Community Associations; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans, AFL-CIO; Alzheimer's Caregiving & The Caregivers; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; and fifteen individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Executive Office on Aging.

Your Committee finds that the State is facing a rapidly growing dementia crisis. Your Committee further finds that as the State's kupuna population is expected to double in the next twenty-five years, the State's long-term care infrastructure is already operating at or above capacity, with limited availability of memory-care beds statewide. Neighbor islands and rural communities are anticipated to experience even greater disparities, with limited access to diagnosis, treatment, and ongoing support, leading to delayed care and higher long-term costs. This measure's Hanai Memory Network Program responds directly to these needs by creating a coordinated network of information, caregiver coaching, respite resources, and culturally relevant supports that empower families to keep their loved ones at home safely for as long as possible.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

(1) Inserting an effective date of January 30, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and

(2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

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 H.B. No. 1853, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1853, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on 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.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
HB1853 HD1	HHS, WAM	3/18/2026

☐ The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.

If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

☐ Pass, unamended 2312 ☑ Pass, with amendments 2311 ☐ Hold 2310 ☐ Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A. (C)	✓			
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K. (VC)	✓			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo				✓
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
TOTAL	4	Ø	Ø	1

Recommendation: ☑ Adopted ☐ 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

Revised: 01/21/26