STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3635

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 0 9 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 Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 1853, H.D. 1, S.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 assist individuals living with dementia and their caregivers.

Specifically, this measure establishes and appropriates moneys for a Hanai Memory Network Program within the Executive Office on Aging to integrate community-based specialists, clinical partnerships, and public education to improve early detection, care coordination, and long-term support for individuals having dementia, and their caregivers.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the State Health Planning and Development Agency, Hawaii Disability Rights Center, Alzheimer's Association - Hawaii, AARP Hawaii, Hawaii Primary Care Association, and eleven individuals.

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

Your Committee finds that access to early diagnosis, care planning, and long-term support for individuals living with dementia and cognitive impairment is currently limited, especially in rural areas and on neighbor islands. Many residents face barriers to receiving timely and coordinated care due to geographic isolation, workforce shortages, and fragmented service delivery. Your Committee believes that the Hanai Memory Network Program established by this measure will help to address these issues and promote proactive care planning, thereby improving outcomes for kupuna and caregivers and alleviating pressure on the State's long-term care system.

If a Committee on Conference is convened on this measure, your Committee respectfully requests that the Committee on Conference consider the amendments offered by the Alzheimer's Association - Hawaii, which would:

(1) Authorize, rather than require, the Executive Office on Aging's annual report to the Legislature to include information on the number of individuals screened and diagnosed, the number of care plans created, provider and caregiver satisfaction data, and proposed legislation; and

(2) Allocate moneys for four full-time equivalent dementia care specialists, instead of one full-time equivalent dementia care specialist.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1853, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair

The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
HB 1853, HD1, SD1	HHS, WAM	4/7/2026

☐ 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
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y. (VC)	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	X			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	X			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	X			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X			
KIM, Donna Mercado	X			
LEE, Chris				X
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim"	X			
WAKAI, Glenn	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
TOTAL	12	0	0	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: 01/02/26