STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3168

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 25 2026

RE: H.B. No. 1961
H.D. 2
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. 1961, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH CARE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

(1) Prohibit persons from interfering with another person's access to or from a health care facility or disrupting the normal functioning of a health care facility;

(2) Make violations a petty misdemeanor;

(3) Establish a private right of action; and

(4) Authorize the Attorney General to bring an action for injunctive or other equitable relief.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Health Planning and Development Agency; Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Pride at Work-Hawai'i; Hawaii Women's Coalition; H.O.K.U PAC; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Hawai'i Section; Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women; Planned

Parenthood Alliance Advocates Hawai'i; Indivisible Hawai'i; AAUW of Hawai'i; Hawai'i State Youth Commission; and forty-eight individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Christian Coalition, Leeward Republican Women's Club, Hawaii Family Forum, and thirty-six individuals.

Your Committee finds that access to health care is a fundamental right. No individual should be subject to harassment, obstruction, intimidation, or endangerment when seeking medical care, nor should health care providers and staff be subjected to disruption or threats while delivering essential services. Your Committee further finds that this measure does not prohibit free speech or peaceful protest; rather, it draws a clear and necessary line against conduct that interferes with access to care, disrupts medical services, or causes harm to patients and providers. This measure ensures that health care facilities remain safe, accessible, and operational for all who rely on them.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making it effective upon its approval.

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. 1961, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1961, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

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:
HB 1961 HD2	HHS, JDC	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	1	Ø

Recommendation: ☑ Adopted ☐ Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature: JW

Distribution: Original — File with Committee Report; Yellow — Committee; Pink — Drafting Agency

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

Revised: 01/21/26