STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3753

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 10 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 Judiciary, to which was referred H.B. No. 1961, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, 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 of the Department of Health; Hawai'i State Center for Nursing; Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; American College of Obstetricians and Gynocologists; Planned Parenthood Alliance Advocates-Hawai'i; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; American Association of University Women of Hawai'i; Essential Access

Health; HOKU PAC; Pride at Work Hawai'i; Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission; Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women; Hawaii Women's Forum; Hawai'i Women Lawyers; Indivisible Hawai'i Statewide Network; Hawai'i State Youth Commission; and fifty-eight individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, Hawaii Family Forum, and fourteen individuals.

Your Committee finds that interference with health care facilities places workers and patients at risk. When entrances are blocked, services are disrupted, or staff are harassed, a workplace safety issue and public health concern is created because these actions can delay care, escalate conflict, and force workers into unsafe situations that should not be a part of their job. Furthermore, health care workers, many of whom are frontline essential workers, deserve workplaces free from harassment, intimidation, and disruption. This measure will preserve the right to lawful expression while prohibiting conduct that disrupts access to health care facilities to protect patients' rights and promote public health.

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. 1961, H.D. 2, 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 1961 HD2 SD1	WHS, JDC	4/7/26

☐ 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
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)			✓	
CHANG, Stanley	✓			
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.	✓			
AWA, Brenton				✓
TOTAL	3	—	1	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