

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3756

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 10 2026

RE: H.B. No. 2088

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. 2088 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ADOPTIONS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to add the requirement that a written consent to adoption be notarized.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Judiciary and the Department of Human Services.

Your Committee finds that under existing law, there is no notary requirement for written consents in adoption cases. Consequently, situations involving fraudulent consents may arise. This measure will strengthen the integrity of adoption proceedings and reduce the risk of disputes and legal challenges, ensuring more permanency for the children involved.

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. 2088, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.



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

*Karl Rhoads*


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KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-Third Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes  
 Committee on Judiciary  
 JDC

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>HB 2084</b>	Committee Referral: <b>HHS, JDC</b>	Date: <b>9/7/26</b>		
<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				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution:             Original             Yellow             Pink File with Committee Report             Committee             Drafting Agency				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes