

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2249

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 13 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2211
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 S.B. No. 2211 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to make an emergency appropriation to the Department of Human Services to provide emergency assistance to households participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and to expand food delivery services through its contracted community-based providers, including to supplement or expand the Hawaii Emergency Food Assistance Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Human Services, Aloha United Way, Hawaii Food Industry Association, Catholic Charities Hawai'i, Hawaii Academy of Family Physicians, Hawaii Primary Care Association, AARP Hawai'i, Hawai'i Farm Bureau, Hawaii Health & Harm Reduction Center, AlohaCare, Hawai'i Public Health Institute, Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice, and eight individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) plays a critical role in helping low-income individuals and families access food during periods of



economic hardship. Your Committee further finds that disruptions in SNAP benefits can have immediate and serious impacts on food security, health, and household stability. This measure addresses an emergency situation resulting from disruptions in federal SNAP benefit distribution and provides the Department of Human Services with the flexibility needed to mitigate harm to vulnerable households.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

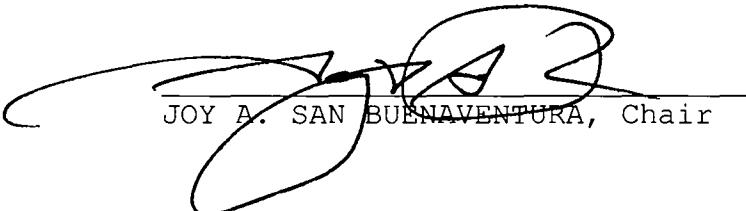
- (1) Deleting its contents and inserting the language from S.B. No. 3129, a substantively similar measure that provides an emergency appropriation to the Department of Human Services to replace general fund appropriations redirected to provide emergency food assistance during the 2025 federal government shutdown; and
- (2) Changing the appropriation from \$14,248,126 to an unspecified amount, to facilitate further discussion on the measure.

Your Committee notes that this measure, as amended, contains an unspecified appropriation amount. Should your Committee on Ways and Means choose to deliberate on this measure, your Committee respectfully requests that it consider inserting an appropriation amount of \$14,248,126 to offset costs incurred by the Department of Human Services in providing emergency food assistance to Hawaii residents during the federal government shutdown.

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 S.B. No. 2211, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2211, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.



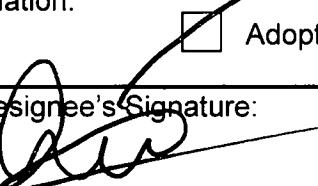
Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Health and Human
Services,


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.:* SB 2211	Committee Referral: HHS, WAM	Date: 1/30/2026		
<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 type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310		
<input type="checkbox"/> 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	0	0	1
Recommendation: <input type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: <input type="checkbox"/> Original File with Committee Report		Yellow Committee	Pink Drafting Agency	

*Only one measure per Record of Votes