STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2318

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 18 2026

RE: S.B. No. 3144
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 Labor and Technology, to which was referred S.B. No. 3144 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH LAW,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

(1) Repeal the Hoisting Machine Operators Advisory Board and its rules requiring a separate state crane operator certificate; and

(2) Allow additional time for the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations to complete an investigation of a discharge or discrimination complaint pertaining to employees exercising rights under the Occupational Safety and Health Law without formal extension.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Your Committee finds that the existing state certification requirement of the Hoisting Machine Advisory Board duplicates the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's national crane operator certification requirements under 29 C.F.R. section 1926.1427, and adds paperwork, fees, and administrative delays

without providing additional safety benefits. Repealing this requirement from state law will streamline governance and eliminate redundant regulation. Your Committee additionally finds that allowing the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations additional time to complete complex investigations of whistleblower complaints involving workplace safety rights will align state law with federal standards and provide clearer expectations for employees and employers. Therefore, this measure modernizes the Hawaii Occupational Safety and Health Law, reduces unnecessary administrative burdens, and preserves workplace safety protections.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

(1) Inserting an effective date of January 1, 2077, to encourage further discussion; and

(2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor and Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 3144, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 3144, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Labor and Technology,

BRANDON J.C. ELEFANTE, Chair

The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Labor and Technology
LBT

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
SB3144	LBT, JDC	2·11·26

☐ 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
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C. (C)	✓			
LAMOSAO, Rachele (VC)	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les				✓
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
TOTAL	4	0	0	1

Recommendation: ☑ Adopted ☐ Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature: [signature]

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

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

Revised: 01/02/26