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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The disability and communication access board  
2 shall conduct a study of the communication needs of individuals  
3 who are deaf, hard-of-hearing, or deaf-blind in health care  
4 settings. The study shall include consideration of:

5           (1) The availability in the State of sign language  
6                 interpreters, tactile interpreters, and other services  
7                 and auxiliary aids that serve the needs of the State's  
8                 deaf, hard-of-hearing, and deaf-blind communities;

9           (2) The patients' preferences;

10          (3) Any special communication needs of in-patients in  
11                 hospitals and skilled nursing facilities who are deaf,  
12                 hard-of-hearing, or deaf-blind;

13          (4) The legal duty for health care providers to provide  
14                 patients who are deaf, hard-of-hearing, or deaf-blind  
15                 with auxiliary aids and services, including qualified  
16                 sign language interpreters, to ensure effective  
17                 communication;



- 1 (5) Instructions for patients who are deaf, hard-of-  
2 hearing, or deaf-blind on how to file a grievance; and  
3 (6) Any recommended revisions to the current guidance for  
4 health care providers to ensure effective  
5 communication that better addresses the needs of  
6 patients who are deaf, hard-of-hearing, or deaf-blind.

7 SECTION 2. The disability and communication access board  
8 shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations,  
9 including any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later  
10 than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session  
11 of 2027.

12 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



H.B. NO. 2488  
H.D. 2  
S.D. 1

**Report Title:**

DCAB; Study; Deaf; Hard-of-Hearing; Deaf-Blind; Effective  
Communication in Health Care Guidance; Report

**Description:**

Requires the Disability and Communication Access Board to study  
the health care communication needs of patients who are deaf,  
hard-of-hearing, or deaf-blind. Requires a report to the  
Legislature. Effective 7/1/3000. (SD1)

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not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

