

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 05 , 2026

RE: H.B. No. 1537
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2026
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Finance, to which was referred H.B. No. 1537, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Appropriate funds for the Department of Health to contract with community-based organizations to provide preventive and early intervention mental health services to adolescents within the community; and
- (2) Require the Department of Health to report to the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; State Council on Mental Health; Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Coalition for a Drug-Free Hawaii; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Hina Mauka; and seven individuals.

Your Committee requests consideration that the mental health services to be provided through this measure are delivered with attention to equity and inclusivity in the communities served.



As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1537, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Todd", written over a horizontal line.

CHRIS TODD, Chair



MSLR 854-26

Bill/Resolution No.: HB1537, HD1		Committee Referral: HLT/HSR, FIN		Date: 2/27/24	
☐ The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.					
The recommendation is to: ☒ Pass, unamended (as is) ☐ Pass, with amendments (HD) ☐ Hold ☐ Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)					
FIN Members		Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. TODD, Chris (C)		/			
2. TAKENOUCHI, Jenna (VC)		/			
3. HARTSFIELD, Daisy		/			
4.					
5. HUSSEY, Ikaika		/			
6. KEOHOKAPU-LEE LOY, Sue L.		/			
7. KITAGAWA, Lisa		/			
8. KUSCH, Matthias		/			
9. LEE, Mike					/
10. MIYAKE, Tyson K.		/			
11. MORIKAWA, Dee		/			
12. PERRUSO, Amy A.		/			
13. TEMPLO, Shirley Ann		/			
14. YAMASHITA, Kyle T.		/			
15. ALCOS III, David			/		
16. GEDEON, Joe			/		
17. REYES ODA, Julie		/			
TOTAL		13	2	0	1
The recommendation is: ☒ Adopted ☐ Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)					
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____					
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