

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **3715**

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 10 2026

RE: H.B. No. 1721
H.D. 2
S.D. 2

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2026
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, to which was referred H.B. No. 1721, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify insurance, indemnification, and certain certificate of occupancy requirements for the purposes of expedited permits for certain housing projects; and
- (2) Require state or county inspectors to inspect all projects with expedited permits.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Housing Hawai'i's Future, Plumbers and Fitters UA Local 675, Akala Consulting LLC, Grassroot Institute of Hawaii, Maui Chamber of Commerce, and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that Act 295, Session Laws of Hawaii 2025 (Act 295), created a pathway for expedited permitting for single-family and multi-family housing projects, in an effort to streamline what have been some of the longest permitting times in the country. Your Committee further finds that certain provisions established in Act 295 unintentionally created uninsurable

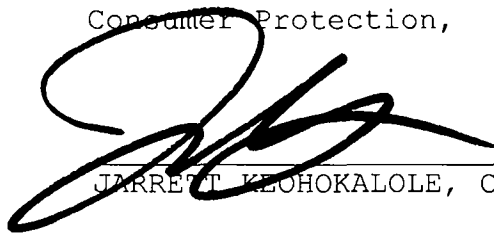


conditions for design professionals and engineers. This measure would provide clarity and specify expectations related to insurance and indemnification to ensure design professionals and engineering firms in the State, particularly small businesses, are able to meet insurance requirements to support expedited permitting.

Your Committee has amended this measure by 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 Commerce and Consumer Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1721, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1721, H.D. 2, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Commerce and
Consumer Protection,




JARRETT KIOHOKALOLE, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
CPN

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 1721 HD2, SD1	EIG/HOU, CPN	04/07/2026		
<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
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett (C)	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol (VC)	✓			
LAMOSAO, Rachele	✓			
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K.	✓			
AWA, Brenton				✓
TOTAL	4			1
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