

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 05, 2026

RE: H.B. No. 1838
H.D. 2

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. 1838, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO VISAS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish uniform statewide requirements for policies and processes for the issuance of U and T visa certifications for noncitizen victims of crime that are consistent with federal laws and regulations governing U and T visas;
- (2) Require each state and county certifying entity to adopt a policy and process for the issuance of U and T visa certifications, consistent with the statewide requirements; and
- (3) Require, and appropriate funds for, the Department of the Attorney General to provide training to certifying entities and certifying officials on all federal and state requirements for U and T visa certifications.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the State Health Planning and Development Agency; Hawaii



State Commission on the Status of Women; Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights; The Legal Clinic; Hawai'i Coalition for Civil Rights; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee notes the testimony by The Legal Clinic, which requested that certain language from the H.D. 1 version of this measure be reinstated. Specifically, The Legal Clinic requested reinstatement of language recognizing state courts and judges as U and T visa certifiers, as this is consistent with federal law. Your Committee requests that, as this measure moves through the legislative process, further consideration be given to this matter.

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. 1838, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

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



CHRIS TODD, Chair



