

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 30 2026

RE: H.B. No. 2104
H.D. 2
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 Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred
H.B. No. 2104, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ISLAND BURIAL COUNCILS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Extend the time to fill vacancies that occur during an
Island Burial Council member's term;
- (2) Provide per diem compensation in the form of a stipend
for Island Burial Council members representing
geographic regions; and
- (3) Adjust the Island Burial Councils' quorum for business
to be a majority of the appointed council members, but
no fewer than three members.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Office of
Planning and Sustainable Development, Office of Hawaiian Affairs,
Ko'olauloa Hawaiian Civic Club, Avalon Development, and thirty-two
individuals.



Your Committee finds that over the past decade there have been challenges filling vacancies and maintaining quorum on Island Burial Councils. Your Committee further finds that this can delay decisions on permissible treatment options for previously identified burial sites, slowing the development of critical housing needed in the State. This measure would address barriers to participation and quorum, strengthen Island Burial Council function and ensure the framework established under chapter 6E, Hawaii Revised Statutes, operates as intended.

Your Committee has amended this measure by inserting an effective date of September 9, 2129, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2104, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2104, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs,

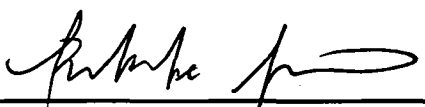


HERBERT M. RICHARDS, III, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
HWN

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 2104, HD 2	HWN, WAM	03-24-2026		
<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
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (C)	✓			
LAMOSAO, Rachele (VC)	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les				✓
KEOHOKALOOLE, Jarrett				✓
DECORTE, Samantha	✓			
TOTAL	3	0	0	2
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align:center; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink File with Committee Report Committee Drafting Agency				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes