

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 05 , 2026

RE: H.B. No. 2116
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. 2116, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO GRANTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Appropriate funds to the Office of Community Services to award grants to certain nonprofit organizations;
- (2) Establish an evaluation and selection committee to oversee the awarding of grants; and
- (3) Appropriate funds for positions in the Office of Community Services and for the Department of the Attorney General to assist the Office in reviewing contracts and monitoring costs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Community Services; Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition; Catholic Charities Hawai'i; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Hawai'i Community Foundation; Hawai'i Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations; Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!; Hawai'i Public Health Institute and Healthy Eating, Active Living Coalition; Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice; and



AlohaCare. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the League of Women Voters of Hawaii.

Your Committee notes the concerns regarding whether the Evaluation and Selection Committee membership should include a member of the Minority Caucus and whether the committee structure provides appropriate oversight of the proposed grant award process. Your Committee recognizes that these concerns highlight a broader need for a grant evaluation framework that preserves constitutional boundaries and ensures public transparency.

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. 2116, 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



