

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 19 , 2026

RE: H.B. No. 2223

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 Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 2223, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION
REVIEWS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to conduct a review of the effect of a proposed project on lands under its jurisdiction on historic properties and burial sites, subject to certain requirements; and
- (2) Appropriate funds to establish positions in the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands for the reviews.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Ko'olau Foundation; CARES; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that under existing law, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is required to consult with the Department of Land and Natural Resources regarding the effect of any proposed



project relating to lands under the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' jurisdiction on historic properties or burial sites. Your Committee recognizes that this review process is delaying projects that would provide housing for beneficiaries of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. Streamlining this process by allowing the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to assume review of these projects, as intended by this measure, will allow the construction of these proposed projects to be expedited.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands must provide the Hawaiian home lands historic preservation specialist's or consultant's comments, recommendations, and decisions to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to be incorporated into the historic preservation digital document management system and library; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2223, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2223, H.D. 2.

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



DAVID A. TARNAS, Chair



Record of Votes of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Bill/Resolution No.: <i>HB 2223 HDI</i>	Committee Referral: <i>WAL, JHA, FIN</i>	Date: <i>2/12/26</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
JHA Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. TARNAS, David A. (C)	✓			
2. POEPOE, Mahina (VC)	✓			
3. BELATTI, Della Au				✓
4. COCHRAN, Elle			✓	
5. HASHEM, Mark J.	✓			
6. KAHALOA, Kirstin	✓			② ✓
7. SAYAMA, Jackson D.	✓			
8. TAKAYAMA, Gregg	✓			
9. GARCIA, Diamond	✓			
10. SHIMIZU, Garner M.		✓		
TOTAL (10)	7	1	1	1
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <small>committee acronym(s)</small>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: <i>[Signature]</i>				
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