

Honolulu, Hawaii
FEB 20 , 2026

RE: H.B. No. 2387
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2026
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Labor, to which was referred H.B. No. 2387
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION MEDICAL
BENEFITS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Expand workers' compensation medical benefits for
firefighters by broadening the list of covered cancers
and diseases; and
- (2) Specifying that employers may deny coverage only if they
prove the cancer or disease was not associated with
firefighting duties.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and five
individuals.

Your Committee finds that firefighters face significantly
higher exposure to carcinogens and toxic substances in the line of
duty, resulting in elevated cancer rates compared to the general
population. Existing workers' compensation protections cover only
a limited list of cancers, leaving many firefighters without



adequate medical support for conditions strongly linked to occupational hazards. Your Committee believes that expanding the list of covered cancers and diseases and strengthening the presumption of work-related illness will better protect firefighter health and ensure timely access to essential medical care.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2387, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2387, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

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



JACKSON D. SAYAMA, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Thirty-third Legislature

HSR 640-26

Record of Votes of the Committee on Labor

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 2387	Committee Referral: LAB, FIN	Date: 2/19/26
--	--	---

The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.

The recommendation is to:
 Pass, unamended (as is)
 Pass, with amendments (HD)
 Hold
 Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)

LAB Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. SAYAMA, Jackson D. (C)	X			
2. LEE, Mike (VC)	X			
3. GARRETT, Andrew Takuya	X			
4. KAPELA, Jeanne	X			
5. KONG, Sam Satoru				X
6. REYES ODA, Julie	X			
TOTAL (6)	5			1

The recommendation is:
 Adopted
 Not Adopted
 If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation.
committee acronym(s)

Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____

Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO