

Honolulu, Hawaii
FEB 18 , 2026

RE: H.B. No. 2488
H.D. 1

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

Madame:

Your Committees on Human Services & Homelessness and Health,
to which was referred H.B. No. 2488 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DISABILITY AND
COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require the Disability and
Communication Access Board to study the health care communication
needs of patients who are deaf, hard-of-hearing, or deaf-blind.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure
from the Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities; State
Health Planning and Development Agency; Disability and
Communication Access Board; Hawaii Disability Rights Center; and
numerous individuals.

Your Committees find that Hawaii residents who are deaf,
hard-of-hearing, or deaf-blind face various challenges across
different facets of everyday life. A study of the health care
communication needs of individuals who are deaf, hard-of-hearing,
and deaf-blind would provide direction and identify current
resources and gaps, which in turn will lead to strategies for
better care.



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

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Human Services & Homelessness and Health that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2488, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2488, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Human Services &
Homelessness and Health,



GREGG TAKAHARA, Chair



LISA MARTEN, Chair



