

Honolulu, Hawaii

, 2026

MAR 05

RE: H.B. No. 2581

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. 2581, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to clarify that the emergency powers granted to the Governor and county mayors are strictly limited to situations that involve responding to the sudden occurrence of disasters or emergencies of tremendous severity and destructiveness resulting from natural or human-caused hazards.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i; Earthjustice; Free Access Coalition; Grassroot Institute of Hawaii; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; Kupuna for the Moopuna; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency and Department of Emergency Management of the City and County of Honolulu.

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. 2581, 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



