

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 09 , 2026

RE: H.C.R. No. 67

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.C.R. No. 67 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DISABILITY AND  
COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD TO STUDY THE HEALTH CARE SETTING  
COMMUNICATION NEEDS OF, AND DEVELOP GUIDELINES FOR,  
INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE DEAF, HARD OF HEARING, OR DEAF-BLIND,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to request that the Disability  
and Communication Access Board conduct a study of the  
communication needs of deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind  
individuals in health care settings.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure  
from the State Health Planning and Development Agency; Disability  
and Communication Access Board; Aloha Independent Living Hawaii;  
and one individual.

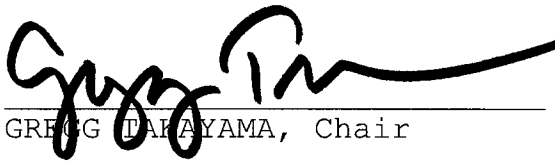
Your Committees find that patients who are deaf, hard of  
hearing, or deaf-blind often encounter significant communication  
challenges in health care settings, especially at the hospital or  
when transitioning to a skilled nursing facility. These  
communication challenges can lead to misunderstandings about  
treatment plans, delayed care, and even safety risks during  
transitions between facilities. Your Committees further find that  
the study requested by this measure will help identify



communication needs, evaluate current practices, and provide recommendations for effective communication in health care settings, which in turn will lead to better care and support for patients who are deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind.

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 concur with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 67 and recommend its adoption.

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

  
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GREGG PARAYAMA, Chair

  
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LISA MARTEN, Chair





