

Honolulu, Hawaii  
, 2026

APR 09

RE: H.R. No. 7

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

Madame:

Your Committee on Economic Development & Technology, to which was referred H.R. No. 7 entitled:

"HOUSE RESOLUTION URGING THE COUNTIES TO ACT ON ANY BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATION FOR MODIFICATION OF A RESIDENCE THAT IS PRESCRIBED BY A LICENSED HEALTH CARE PROVIDER AND FOUND BY THE COUNTY TO BE ESSENTIAL TO THE SAFETY OR HEALTH OF AN OLDER ADULT OR PERSON WITH A DISABILITY WITHIN FORTY-FIVE DAYS OF RECEIPT OF A COMPLETE APPLICATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to urge the counties to act on any building permit application for modification of a residence that is prescribed by a licensed health care provider and found by the county to be essential to the safety or health of an older adult or person with a disability within forty-five days of the receipt of a complete application.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Disability and Communications Access Board and Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition.


Your Committee finds that throughout the State, older adults are facing months-long delays in receiving approval for building permit applications for modifications to residences that are needed for safety and independent living. These modifications often include the installation of ramps, grab bars, widened



doorways, and other features that enable aging in place and reduce reliance on institutional care. Your Committee further finds that timely approval of building permits for safety-related home modifications is critical to advancing public health goals, reducing health care costs, and supporting the State's commitment to enabling older adults to age safely and independently in their own homes. The expedited building permit application process urged by this measure will help ensure timely, reasonable accommodations and support continuity of care for older adults and individuals with disabilities.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 7 and recommends its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Economic  
Development & Technology,

  
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GREGGOR LAGANA, Chair



