

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2988

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 06 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2088  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2026  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Ways and Means and Commerce and Consumer Protection, to which was referred S.B. No. 2088, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH CARE PLANS FOR WORKERS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to preserve affordable access to essential medical services for nontraditional workers.

Specifically, this measure:

- (1) Requires the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, in consultation with the Insurance Commissioner, to establish a five-year voluntary Nontraditional Workforce Portable Health Care Benefit Plan Pilot Program to offer high-deductible health plans or catastrophic health plans to workers not covered by the Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund or the Prepaid Health Care Act; and
- (2) Appropriates moneys to develop and implement the Nontraditional Workforce Portable Health Care Benefit Plan Pilot Program.



Your Committees received written comments in support of this measure from the Hawaii Primary Care Association and Hawaii Medical Association.

Your Committees received written comments on this measure from the Insurance Division of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, University of Hawaii Professional Assembly, and Hawaii Medical Service Association.

Your Committees find that certain nontraditional workers, including certain part-time employees, independent contractors, and self-employed individuals, who constitute a growing portion of Hawaii's workforce, rely on private or federally subsidized health insurance. Your Committees further find that the passage of the federal "One Big Beautiful Bill Act," Public Law 119-21, may jeopardize the ability of these workers to obtain affordable health insurance through federal programs such as Medicaid. Accordingly, this measure establishes a health insurance framework for these nontraditional workers to continue to have affordable access to essential medical services.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Ways and Means and Commerce and Consumer Protection that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2088, S.D. 1, and recommend that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Ways and Means  
and Commerce and Consumer  
Protection,

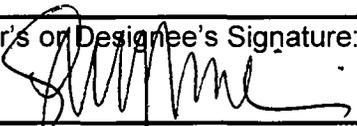
  
ARRETT KEOHOKALOLE, Chair

  
DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair



The Senate  
Thirty-Third Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Ways and Means**  
**WAM**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 2008, 6D1	LBT, WAM/CPN	3/3/2026		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y. (VC)	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	X			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	X			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	X			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X			
KIM, Donna Mercado	X			
LEE, Chris	X			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim"	X			
WAKAI, Glenn	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt				X
<b>TOTAL</b>	12	0	0	1
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
				
Distribution:				
Original	Yellow	Pink		
File with Committee Report	Committee	Drafting Agency		

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes

