

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2821

Honolulu, Hawaii

**MAR 05 2026**

RE: S.B. No. 2250  
S.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred S.B. No. 2250 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE PROMOTION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to amend the offense of promoting a controlled substance in, on, or near schools, school vehicles, public parks, or public housing projects or complexes to include homeless facilities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu; Honolulu Police Department; Institute for Human Services, Inc.; CARES; and two individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender, Drug Policy Forum of Hawai'i, Hawai'i Friends of Restorative Justice, Community Alliance on Prisons, and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that when individuals enter homeless shelters, they are often newly separated from street-based drug activity, engaging with case managers and treatment providers, and attempting to reduce or stop substance use in order to secure housing, employment, or reunification with family. However, drug



dealers often operate immediately outside shelter boundaries to capitalize on residents who they know are struggling with addiction and are at their most vulnerable. Your Committee notes that existing law already recognizes that certain locations, such as schools, parks, and public housing, deserve heightened protection from drug trafficking because of the populations they serve. Your Committee believes that homeless shelters serve an equally vulnerable population and deserve the same protection. This measure will reinforce the Legislature's commitment to helping individuals move from homelessness to stability.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting additional legislative findings; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2250, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2250, S.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Judiciary,



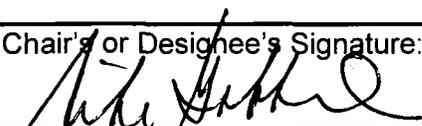
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KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-Third Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Judiciary**  
**JDC**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 2250	JDC	2/13/26		
<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 type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)	✓			✓
CHANG, Stanley				✓
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.				✓
AWA, Brenton	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	3	—	—	2
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