

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2989

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 06 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2347
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. 2347, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD-TENANT CODE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require the Office of Consumer Protection to periodically publish an accessible, multilingual notice of tenant rights.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Disability and Communication Access Board, Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!, Hawai'i Association of REALTORS, Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice, Hawai'i YIMBY, and one individual.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committee finds that renters comprise a significant and essential part of the State's housing market, yet they often enter into lease agreements with insufficient information regarding their rights, responsibilities, and options under the law. Your Committee further finds that many renters, including Native Hawaiians, face language barriers, limited access to legal assistance, and fear of retaliation, all of which make it



difficult to understand and assert their rights under the State's Residential Landlord-Tenant Code. This measure addresses a critical and practical gap in tenant protections by requiring the publication of the information necessary for renters to utilize the self-help system of the Residential Landlord-Tenant Code in an accessible, multilingual format, thereby promoting housing security and helping prevent exploitation or misunderstanding in landlord-tenant relationships.

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. 2347, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

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



KARL RHOADS, Chair



