

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2151

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 11 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2397

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Government Operations, to which was referred S.B. No. 2397 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO NEIGHBORHOOD BOARDS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish that, when a neighborhood board of the City and County of Honolulu has a vacancy, a majority of all seats that are filled shall constitute a quorum to conduct business and a majority vote of the members present at the board's meeting shall validate an act of the board as part of its official business.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from six individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Information Practices.

Your Committee finds that official business conducted by neighborhood board meetings throughout the City and County of Honolulu have been delayed or cancelled repeatedly because of the inability of neighborhood boards to reach a quorum due to frequent vacancies. This measure will enable the productivity and efficiency of the neighborhood boards for the betterment of communities by lowering the threshold for what constitutes a quorum for conducting business to a majority of all filled seats on the neighborhood board and for what constitutes a quorum for



validating a neighborhood board's official business to a majority of all the neighborhood board members present.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Government Operations that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2397 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Government
Operations,



ANGUS L.K. MCKELVEY, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Third Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Government Operations
GVO

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 2397	Committee Referral: GVO, JDC	Date: 2/5/2026		
<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
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K. (C)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)	✓			✓
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.				✓
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.	✓			
AWA, Brenton	✓			
TOTAL	4	—	—	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**