

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **3057**

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 06 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2520
S.D. 2

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. 2520, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HABITUAL VIOLENT CRIME,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Amend Act 213, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, by repealing its sunset date and requiring the Criminal Justice Research Institute to submit a one-time report to the Legislature before the Regular Session of 2031; and
- (2) Require the Department of the Attorney General, in consultation with the Criminal Justice Research Institute, to submit ongoing annual reports to the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General, Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Hawaii, Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Maui, Honolulu Police Department, Kaua'i Police Department, and two individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from Hawai'i Friends of Restorative Justice.



Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary.

Your Committee finds that Act 213, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, was enacted to establish an offense to target offenders who have proven to be a safety risk to the State's communities by accruing multiple misdemeanor convictions for unlawful physical violence. However, this offense will sunset in 2027. Your Committee further finds that experts recommend collecting at least five years of data to understand how a law works in practice, and therefore the sunset date of 2027 will likely be insufficient to allow for adequate data analysis. This measure will provide the Legislature with additional time and information to ensure the efficacy of the habitual violent crime offense.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring the annual reports submitted by the Department of the Attorney General to the Legislature contain only aggregated information and no personally identifiable or confidential information; 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. 2520, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2520, S.D. 2.

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



KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Third Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary
JDC

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 2520 SDI	Committee Referral: PSM, JDC	Date: 2/24/26		
<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	✓			
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