

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2804

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR - 5 2026

RE: .S.B. No. 2566

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. 2566 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DOMESTIC ABUSE ORDERS FOR
PROTECTION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to remove the
requirement that requests to withhold from public inspection the
petition record of a denied temporary restraining order or denied
protective order be made orally.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Judiciary, Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic
Violence, Hawai'i State Democratic Women's Caucus, and two
individuals.

Your Committee finds that retaliatory counter-petitions can
negatively impact domestic abuse victims' employment and housing
prospects and hinder the victims' efforts to gain physical and
financial independence from their abusers. To address this,
existing law allows the court to issue an order that withholds a
denied petition from public inspection. However, in order to
issue these orders, existing law requires that the respondent make
an oral request at a court hearing. Given the fact that requests
for temporary restraining orders are reviewed or submitted on an
ex parte basis and generally without a hearing, there is no
ability for respondents to make these oral requests under ordinary



circumstances. This measure addresses this problem by aligning existing law with the realities of ex parte proceedings and fundamental principles of procedural fairness.

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. 2566 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

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 2566	Committee Referral: JDC	Date: 2/13/26
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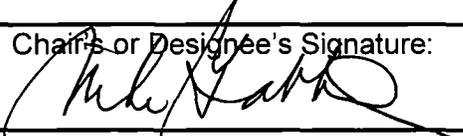
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312 Pass, with amendments 2311 Hold 2310 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)	✓			
CHANG, Stanley				✓
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.				✓
AWA, Brenton	✓			
TOTAL	3	—	—	2

Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:


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*Only one measure per Record of Votes