

Honolulu, Hawaii
, 2026

MAR 30

RE: S.B. No. 2568
S.D. 1
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2026
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Labor, to which was referred S.B. No. 2568,
S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC
SERVANTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to elevate the offense of
harassment to a misdemeanor when committed against a public
servant in connection with their performance of official duties.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Judiciary; Department of Education; Hawaii State
Commission on the Status of Women; University of Hawaii
Professional Assembly; Hawaii State Trial Judges Association;
Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-
CIO; and United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO. Your
Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of the
Public Defender.

Your Committee finds that public servants increasingly face
harassment, threats, and acts of violence as a direct result of
performing their official duties, creating safety risks that
undermine the effective functioning of government. National and
local reports, along with testimony describing alarming increases



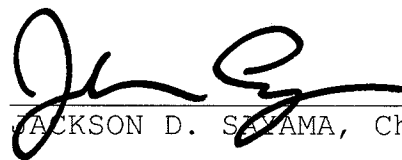
in violent and threatening behavior toward government employees, demonstrate that existing criminal statutes are inadequate for addressing lower-level but harmful conduct such as repeated harassment or escalating intimidation. Your Committee believes that elevating harassment against a public servant to a misdemeanor will strengthen deterrence and help safeguard public officials so they can continue carrying out essential governmental functions without fear.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2568, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2568, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs.

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



JACKSON D. SAYAMA, Chair



