

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2364

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 18 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2730  
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 Public Safety and Military Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 2730 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish factors under which officers may arrest and detain persons without a warrant for petty misdemeanors and violations, and require officers to document the justification for the arrests;
- (2) Amend the circumstances under which officers may issue citations in lieu of arrest;
- (3) Require officers to issue citations in lieu of arrest for certain petty misdemeanors and violations; and
- (4) Require the Judiciary to promulgate a standardized citation form and update the required information for citations.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender, Maui Police Department, Policing Project at the NYU School of Law, ideas42, and one individual.



Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of the Attorney General, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Kauai, Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for 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, Kaua'i Police Department, Hawaii Police Department, Retail Merchants of Hawaii, and three individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Judiciary.

Your Committee finds that individuals who are unnecessarily held in custody before trial increase the costs to the State, burden understaffed police departments, and lead to overcrowding in correctional facilities. This problem is exacerbated when law enforcement officers make warrantless arrests for minor offenses, even when a citation would be sufficient. Moreover, excessive use of warrantless arrests can unnecessarily harm relations between law enforcement officers and the public. This measure will enact reasonable restrictions, similar to those already found in many other states, to ensure that officers do not spend resources arresting people for low-level offenses unless there is an articulable public safety reason to believe an arrest is needed.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; 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 Public Safety and Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2730, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2730, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.



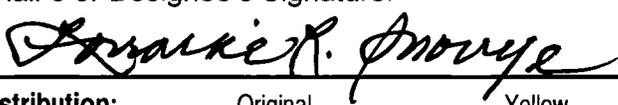
Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Public Safety and  
Military Affairs,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CAROL FUKUNAGA, Chair



The Senate  
Thirty-Third Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs**  
**PSM**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB 2730</b>	Committee Referral: <b>PSM, JDC</b>	Date: <b>2-11-2026</b>		
<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
FUKUNAGA, Carol (C)	✓			
LEE, Chris (VC)				✓
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	✓			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	✓			
DECORTE, Samantha				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>			<b>2</b>
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