

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **2231**

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 12 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2824
S.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Public Safety and Military Affairs and Labor and Technology, to which was referred S.B. No. 2824 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO BRIBERY,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish the offense of failure to report bribery as a misdemeanor.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from Indivisible Hawai'i-Ka'u Voices, Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action, Indiisible Hawai'i, and fifty-four individuals.

Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender.

Your Committees find that bribery and other forms of corruption undermine trust in public institutions. While acts of corruption already incur penalties under state law, further action is needed to ensure transparency and accountability. By imposing penalties on public servants for failing to report bribery, this measure prevents instances of bribery from going unaddressed.

Your Committees further find that members of other public-serving professions, such as teachers, are already required to report certain crimes as a matter of professional ethics or



law. This measure extends those obligations to public servants in cases of bribery.

Your Committees have 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 records of votes of the members of your Committees on Public Safety and Military Affairs and Labor and Technology that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2824, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2824, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Public Safety and
Military Affairs and Labor and
Technology,



BRANDON J.C. ELEFANTE, Chair



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.:* SB2824	Committee Referral: PSM/LBT, JDC	Date: 2/4/26		
<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
FUKUNAGA, Carol (C)	x			
LEE, Chris (VC)	x			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	x			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	x			
DECORTE, Samantha	x			
TOTAL	5			
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**

