

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2177

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 11 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2835

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 2835 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LIQUOR,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) In counties of fewer than two hundred thousand residents, but more than one hundred thousand residents, exempt the three-day temporary liquor licenses for fundraising events, known as class 10 special licenses, from any requirement to obtain fire-related clearances;
- (2) Allow applications for class 10 special licenses to be submitted electronically and for a single application to apply to any fundraising event that spans multiple parcels of land owned by the same entity; and
- (3) Increase the percentage of fines assessed by all county liquor commissions that may be used to fund public liquor-related educational or enforcement programs.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Maui Chamber of Commerce; Big Island Brewhaus; Maui Brewing Co.; Lanikai Brewing Company LLC, dba Lanikai Spirits; and LahainaTown Action Committee.



Your Committee finds that a temporary liquor license grants the ability for nonprofit groups, political candidates, or political parties to serve alcohol at a fundraising event lasting no longer than three days. However, the system for granting temporary liquor licenses in certain regions in the State is currently overly restrictive. Some of the onerous regulations include requiring an applicant for a temporary liquor license to submit separate applications for each tax map key numbers for a single event regardless of whether that event is in a single location and prohibiting the electronic submission of an application. This measure will allow for a more accessible and equitable process for obtaining temporary liquor licenses across the State by allowing licensure to move forward without additional fire clearances, permitting electronic application submissions, and allowing one application to cover events across multiple parcels of land.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2835 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Energy and
Intergovernmental Affairs,



GLENN WAKAI, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Third Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs
EIG

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB2835	EIG, JDC	2/3/26		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
WAKAI, Glenn (C)	✓			
CHANG, Stanley (VC)	✓			
DECOITE, Lynn	✓			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim"	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt				✓
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