

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 29 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2851
S.D. 1
H.D. 2
C.D. 1

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

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

Sir and Madam:

Your Committee on Conference on the disagreeing vote of the Senate to the amendments proposed by the House of Representatives in S.B. No. 2851, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DEAF INDIVIDUALS,"

having met, and after full and free discussion, has agreed to recommend and does recommend to the respective Houses the final passage of this bill in an amended form.

The purpose of this measure is to authorize deaf motor vehicle owners to register their vehicle as being owned by a deaf individual so that a deafness designation appears when a law enforcement officer accesses the motor vehicle's information.

Your Committee on Conference finds that drivers who are deaf or hard of hearing occasionally find it difficult to communicate with a law enforcement officer during a traffic stop due to environmental noise and limited lines of sight for lip-reading. Law enforcement officers may misinterpret such difficulty as confusion or noncompliance, leading to potentially dangerous outcomes. This measure will provide the law enforcement officer with the necessary

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information before the traffic stop begins to create safer interactions between deaf and hard-of-hearing drivers and law enforcement.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Making it effective on January 1, 2027; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2851, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2851, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1.

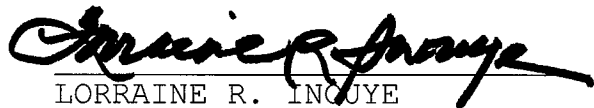
Respectfully submitted on behalf
of the managers:

ON THE PART OF THE HOUSE

ON THE PART OF THE SENATE



DARIUS KILA
Co-Chair



LORRAINE R. INOUE
Chair



MAHINA DOEPOE
Co-Chair



ANGUS L.K. MCKELVEY
Co-Chair



KARL RHOADS
Co-Chair



Hawai'i State Legislature

Record of Votes of a
Conference Committee

CCR 13-26

Bill / Concurrent Resolution No.: SB 2851, SD 1, HD 2	Date/Time: 7/24/26; 9:39am
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The recommendation of the House and Senate managers is to pass with amendments (CD).

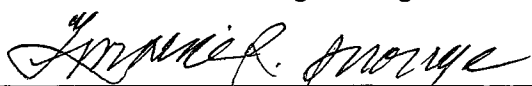
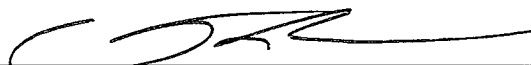
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision.

<input type="checkbox"/> The recommendation of the Senate Manager(s) is to AGREE to the House amendments made to the Senate Measure	<input type="checkbox"/> The recommendation of the House Manager(s) is to AGREE to the Senate amendments made to the House Measure.
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Senate Managers	A	WR	N	E	House Managers	A	WR	N	E
INOUE, Lorraine R., Chr.	✓				KILA, Darius K., Co-Chr.	✓			
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K., Co-Chr.	✓				POEPOE, Mahina, Co-Chr.	✓			
RHOADS, Karl, Co-Chr.	✓				MURAOKA, Christopher L.				✓
DECORTE, Samantha	✓								
TOTAL	4	0	0	0	TOTAL	2	0	0	1

A = Aye WR = Aye with Reservations N = Nay E = Excused

Senate Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted	House Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted
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Senate Lead Chair's or Designee's Signature: 	House Lead Chair's or Designee's Signature: 
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