

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2590

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 20 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2882
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 Government Operations and Public Safety and Military Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 2882 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STATE BUILDINGS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require certain state buildings intended for use as emergency shelters and constructed on or after July 1, 2027, to be designed to withstand Category 5 hurricanes.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency and five individuals.

Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Accounting and General Services and Department of Education.

Your Committees find that, due to warmer ocean temperatures caused by climate change, the State is experiencing a significantly increased risk for powerful hurricanes. Your Committees also note that the number of adequate shelters in the State for severe storms, such as hurricanes, is limited, leaving many residents throughout the islands exposed to the extreme effects of storms. This measure will improve the State's



preparedness, proactively helping to save the lives of many residents in the face of climate change-related disasters.

Your Committees acknowledge the concern raised in testimony by the Department of Accounting and General Services that public buildings currently under design will be constructed using funds that were appropriated in prior years that may not be sufficient to satisfy structural requirements needed to withstand a Category 5 hurricane. Your Committees also acknowledge the concerns raised in testimony by the Department of Education that, without defining structural terminology, inconsistent interpretation of requirements may result in re-work, delayed timelines, and inadequate shelters; and that a lead agency needs to be designated to coordinate and standardize efforts statewide. Therefore, amendments to this measure are necessary to address these concerns.

Accordingly, your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language clarifying that all state buildings with the intent of serving a secondary purpose as an emergency shelter shall be designed to withstand Category 5 hurricanes and be used as shelters in the event of an emergency; provided that they:
 - (A) Are fully enclosed;
 - (B) Are large capacity shelters; and
 - (C) Will be designed, rather than constructed, on or after July 1, 2027;
- (2) Inserting language to define "fully enclosed", "large capacity shelter" and "shelter";
- (3) Inserting language designating the Department of Accounting and General Services as the lead agency for the purposes of enforcing the requirement in this measure in consultation with the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency;
- (4) Inserting language requiring the Department of Accounting and General Services to adopt rules;



- (5) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose;
- (6) Inserting an effective date of January 1, 2525, to encourage further discussion; and
- (7) 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 Government Operations and Public Safety and Military Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2882, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2882, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Government
Operations and Public Safety
and Military Affairs,

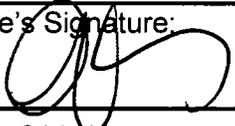

CAROL FUKUNAGA, Chair


ANGUS L.K. MCKELVEY, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Third Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Government Operations
GVO

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB2882	Committee Referral: GVO/PSM, WAM	Date: 2/17/2026		
<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
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K. (C)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)				✓
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	✓			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.	✓			
AWA, Brenton	✓			
TOTAL	4	0	0	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

The Senate
 Thirty-Third Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs
PSM

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB2882	Committee Referral: Gov PSM, NAM	Date: 2/18/26		
<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				

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