

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

**2382**

Honolulu, Hawaii

**FEB 19 2026**

RE: S.B. No. 2908  
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 Economic Development and Tourism and Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 2908 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PERMITTING,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to develop a statewide permitting intake platform implementing certain recommendations of the Simplifying Permitting for Enhanced Economic Development Task Force; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the development of the platform, subject to a matching funds requirement from the counties.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Hawaii Food Industry Association, Chamber of Commerce Hawaii, Holomua Collaborative, Maui Chamber of Commerce, and one individual.

Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.



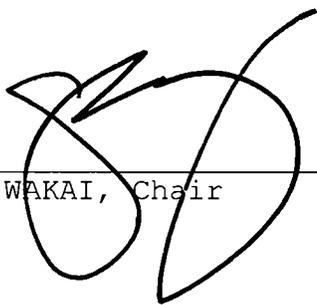
Your Committees find that incomplete or incorrect permitting applications frequently cause significant delays in an already time consuming process. A centralized intake platform that initially vets permitting applications for completeness before material review would reduce unnecessary communications, allow state agencies to focus on substantive review, and create greater predictability for applicants and reviewing bodies. This measure modernizes and streamlines the permitting process statewide to significantly improve coordination and efficiency.

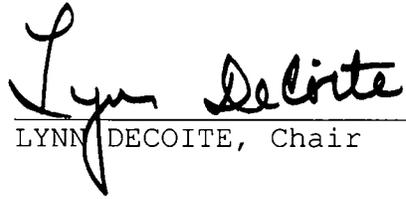
Your Committees have amended this measure by inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion.

Your Committees note the concerns expressed by the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development that placing a state agency like the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism in a management role over permitting functions that are primarily regulated by counties may create significant administrative and jurisdictional friction. Your Committees find that this issue raises concerns that merit further consideration and respectfully request that subsequent Committees to which this measure is referred examine this issue.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Economic Development and Tourism and Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2908, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2908, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Economic  
Development and Tourism and  
Energy and Intergovernmental  
Affairs,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GLENN WAKAI, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
LYNN DECOITE, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-Third Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Economic Development and Tourism**  
**EDT**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB 2908</b>	Committee Referral: <b>EDT/EIG.WAM</b>	Date: <b>2/12/26</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
DECOITE, Lynn (C)	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn (VC)	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol	✓			
KIM, Donna Mercado	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original     Yellow     Pink File with Committee Report     Committee     Drafting Agency				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes

