

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2321

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 18 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2968  
S.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Labor and Technology, to which was referred  
S.B. No. 2968 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require  
hotelkeepers to supply and provide annual training on the proper  
use and limitations of a panic button to certain workers.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the  
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and Kohala Coast  
Resort Association.

Your Committee finds that hospitality workers often work  
alone and may face heightened risks of harassment or assault;  
furthermore many hospitality workers are women and panic buttons  
may serve as an important tool to prevent and respond to workplace  
violence. Your Committee further finds that similar protections  
to those proposed in this measure have been adopted in other  
jurisdictions.



Your Committee has amended this measure by inserting an effective date of January 1, 2077, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor and Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2968, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2968, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Labor and  
Technology,



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BRANDON J.C. ELEFANTE, Chair



