

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **2888**

Honolulu, Hawaii

**MAR 06 2026**

RE: S.B. No. 3072  
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 Judiciary, to which was referred S.B. No. 3072 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THEFT,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require a mandatory twelve-month minimum sentence of incarceration for a conviction of theft in the first degree when the value of the property or services stolen exceeds \$250,000, whether imposed as a mandatory minimum sentence for an indeterminate term of imprisonment or as a condition of probation, in addition to any other authorized disposition such as restitution or a fine.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General, Honolulu Police Department, and three individuals.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that under existing law, theft of property or services exceeding \$20,000 is treated the same whether the amount taken is slightly above or hundreds of thousands of



dollars more than this threshold. Additionally, even in cases involving exceptionally large losses, courts may still only impose probation, restitution, and fines. Under this framework, white collar offenders who steal hundreds of thousands of dollars may avoid incarceration while petty thieves, if convicted for three or more times for far lower-value thefts, face a mandatory minimum period of incarceration of not less than twelve months under the habitual property crime statute, regardless of the total value of the property stolen. This measure addresses this fundamental inequity in existing theft laws by enhancing deterrence, promoting fairness, and better reflecting the gravity of harm inflicted on victims.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the minimum term of imprisonment of twelve months shall be without possibility of parole; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 3072, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 3072, S.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Judiciary,



---

KARL RHOADS, Chair



