

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2026

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Rep. David A. Tarnas, Chair
Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Rep. Della Au Belatti Rep. Gregg Takayama
Rep. Mark J. Hashem Rep. Elle Cochran
Rep. Kirstin Kahaloa Rep. Diamond Garcia
Rep. Jackson D. Sayama Rep. Garner M. Shimizu

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Wednesday, March 25, 2026
TIME: 2:00 PM
PLACE: VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE
 Conference Room 325
 State Capitol
 415 South Beretania Street

Click [here](#) to submit testimony and to testify remotely or in person.

A live stream link of all House Standing Committee meetings will be available online shortly before the scheduled start time.

Click [here](#) for the live stream of this meeting via YouTube.

A G E N D A

[SB 3219, HD1](#)
[\(HSCR1312-26\)](#)
[Status](#)

PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLE VII, SECTIONS 12 AND 13, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION.
Proposes constitutional amendments to expressly provide that the Legislature may authorize political subdivisions, such as the counties, to issue housing infrastructure growth bonds for specified public works, public improvements, or other actions necessary for housing and community development, and exclude these bonds from determinations of the funded debt of the political subdivisions. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

HSG, JHA, FIN

[SB 2054, SD2, HD1](#)
[\(HSCR1320-26\)](#)
[Status](#)

RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.
Prohibits the Hawaii National Guard from deploying to assist federal troops, federal law enforcement, or the national guard of any other state operating in Hawaii when the Governor has objected to the deployments. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

PBS, JHA



SB 2688, SD1 (SSCR3037) Status	<p>RELATING TO COMPASSIONATE RELEASE.</p> <p>Establishes a protocol for compassionate release for certain ill or seriously debilitated incarcerated persons. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)</p>	<p>JHA, FIN</p>
SB 2575, SD2 (SSCR3028) Status	<p>RELATING TO FIREARMS.</p> <p>Establishes mandatory minimum terms of imprisonment for certain class A felonies involving firearms. Changes from a class B felony to a class A felony the penalty for owning, possessing, or controlling any firearm or ammunition while being prosecuted for or having been convicted of committing a felony, a crime of violence, a criminal offense relating to firearms, or an illegal sale or distribution of any drug. Changes from a misdemeanor to a class A felony the penalty for ownership, possession, control, or transfer of ownership of any firearms or ammunition by a person who a court order has restrained from contacting, threatening, or physically abusing any person. Changes from a misdemeanor to a class A felony the penalty for carrying a firearm while under the influence of a controlled substance. Establishes unlawful possession of methamphetamine while carrying a firearm as a class A felony. Effective 3/22/2075. (SD2)</p>	<p>JHA, FIN</p>
SB 2239, SD1 (SSCR2881) Status	<p>RELATING TO VOTER REGISTRATION.</p> <p>Requires a person who applies for an identification card or driver's license to be automatically registered to vote unless the person affirmatively declines. Requires the name and address of a person who applies for an identification card or driver's license and is registered to vote to be automatically updated on the person's voter registration record unless the person affirmatively declines. (SD1)</p>	<p>JHA, FIN</p>
SB 2601, SD2 (SSCR2955) Status	<p>RELATING TO PROCUREMENT.</p> <p>Ensures that awarded contracts are supported by sufficient appropriations by requiring that the contract amount does not exceed 10% of the amount of the appropriation or balance of an appropriation that is available to cover the cost of the contract. Requires a contract that exceeds the 10% threshold to be approved by the Chief Procurement Officer. Amends criminal penalties under the Hawaii Public Procurement Code by providing that a person who intentionally violates the code is guilty of a petty misdemeanor for the first offense and a misdemeanor for any subsequent offense. Establishes positions within the State Procurement Office. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/2525. (SD2)</p>	<p>JHA, FIN</p>
SB 1166, SD2, HD1 (HSCR1286-26) Status	<p>RELATING TO INSURANCE.</p> <p>Allows the Hawaii Property Insurance Association and private insurers to bring claims against responsible parties for amounts paid by the insurers for losses resulting from climate disasters and extreme weather attributable to climate change. Requires insurance rates established by the Hawaii Property Insurance Association to account for any proceeds from the civil claims against a responsible party. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)</p>	<p>CPC, JHA, FIN</p>



SB 3247, SD1, HD1 (HSCR1302-26) Status	RELATING TO HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS. Establishes a temporary Royal Mausoleum Working Group within the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Requires the Royal Mausoleum Working Group to submit reports to the Legislature. Sunsets the working group on 12/31/2027. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)	WAL, JHA, FIN
SB 2363, HD1 (HSCR1237-26) Status	RELATING TO THE COUNTIES. Authorizes the counties to close public lands when necessary to protect public health, ensure public safety, or preserve natural or cultural resources. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)	WAL, JHA
SB 2372, SD2, HD1 (HSCR1238-26) Status	RELATING TO TREES. Establishes base selection criteria for designating exceptional trees. Establishes the significant tree designation, selection criteria, and related processes. Establishes the State Arborist Advisory Committee within the Department of Land and Natural Resources for administrative purposes. Requires County Arborist Advisory Committees to have at least six members, adopt new exceptional tree selection criteria, and designate significant trees. Directs the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the University of Hawaii to cooperate with State and County Arborist Advisory Committees to carry out the Exceptional Trees Program. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)	WAL, JHA

DECISION MAKING TO FOLLOW

Persons wishing to offer comments should submit testimony at least **24 hours** prior to the hearing. Testimony received after this time will be stamped late and left to the discretion of the chair to consider. While every effort will be made to incorporate all testimony received, materials received on the day of the hearing or improperly identified or directed, may not be processed.

Testimony submitted will be placed on the legislative website. This public posting of testimony on the website should be considered when including personal information in your testimony.

The chair may institute a per-testifier time limit.

Committees meeting in the morning must adjourn prior to the day's Floor Session. Therefore, due to time constraints, not all testifiers may be provided an opportunity to offer verbal comments. However, written submissions will be considered by the committee.

Please refrain from profanity or uncivil behavior. Violations may result in ejection from the hearing without the ability to rejoin.

For remote testifiers, the House will not be responsible for bad connections on the testifier's end.

For general help navigating the committee hearing process, please contact the Public Access Room at (808) 587-0478 or par@capitol.hawaii.gov.

The livestream and/or cable TV broadcast of this meeting will include closed captioning. If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation (including oral, written, or ASL interpretive services) or are unable to submit testimony via the website due to a disability, please contact the committee clerk at (808) 586-6325. Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled.

Click [here](#) for a complete list of House Guidelines for remote testimony.

Hearing JHA 03-25-26.DOCX



FOR AMENDED NOTICES: Measures that have been deleted are stricken through and measures that have been added are bolded.

For more information, please contact the Committee Clerk at (808) 586-6325.

Rep. David A. Tarnas
Chair

