

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

3554

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 06 2018

RE: H.B. No. 1906  
H.D. 2  
S.D. 2

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2018  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred H.B. No. 1906, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH CARE WORKERS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to make intentionally or knowingly causing bodily injury to certain health care workers a class C felony.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i; Healthcare Association of Hawaii; United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME, Local 152; The Queen's Health Systems; Board of Nursing; Hawaii Primary Care Association; Hawaii Medical Association; Hilo Medical Center; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawaii Nurses Association, Office and Professional Employees International Union, Local 50; One Kalakaua Senior Living; and seventy-four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender.

Your Committee finds that violence against healthcare personnel appears to be on the rise. According to the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Statistics, healthcare workers experience violent assaults at a rate four times higher

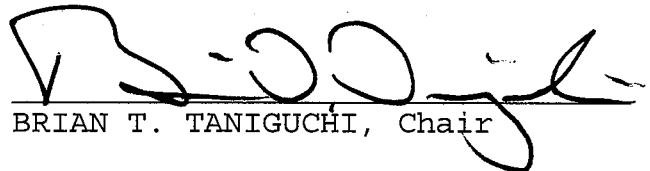


than the national average. Your Committee further finds that, under section 707-711, Hawaii Revised Statutes, there are additional penalties for a defendant who "intentionally or knowingly causes bodily injury" to certain classes of workers, such as educational workers, employees of state-operated or state-contracted mental health facilities, firefighters, and emergency medical services providers. Although some healthcare workers fall within the category of emergency medical services providers, many do not. This measure will extend additional penalties to cover violence against all healthcare workers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by abbreviating the legislative findings.

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 H.B. No. 1906, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1906, H.D. 2, S.D. 2.

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

  
BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, Chair



The Senate  
 Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Judiciary**  
**JDC**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB1906, HD2, SD1	CPH, JDC	3/29/2018		
<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
TANIGUCHI, Brian T. (C)	✓			
RHOADS, Karl (VC)		✓		
GABBARD, Mike				✓
KIM, Donna Mercado	✓			
THIELEN, Laura H.	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	3	1	0	1
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>Karl Rhoads</i>				
Distribution:				
Original	Yellow	Pink	Goldenrod	
File with Committee Report	Clerk's Office	Drafting Agency	Committee File Copy	

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes