

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1456

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 30 2021

RE: S.C.R. No. 171

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2021
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred S.C.R. No. 171 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS IN THE STATE TO VIGOROUSLY ENFORCE AND PROSECUTE OFFENSES COMMITTED AGAINST ESSENTIAL WORKERS WHILE ON THE JOB,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to urge all law enforcement officers and prosecuting attorneys in the State to vigorously enforce and prosecute offenses committed against essential workers while on the job.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i State AFL-CIO; Pride at Work - Hawai'i; International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, District Council 50; UNITE HERE Local 5; International Longshore and Warehouse Union Local 142; United Food and Commercial Workers Union 480; Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME local 152, AFL-CIO and United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee finds that the outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 has given rise to the public's reliance upon a multitude of workers for essential services, such as health care, grocery and food service, hospitality, airline travel, and ground transportation. Your Committee further finds that in the course



of their employment, essential workers are required to have a high degree of face-to-face interaction with the public, relay to customers and other members of the public government-enacted emergency rules and orders, and frequently enforce those rules and orders. Your Committee additionally finds that essential workers are often harassed or confronted, sometimes physically, while trying to do their vital jobs by persons who do not wish to follow the emergency rules and orders. Therefore, it is imperative that law enforcement officers and prosecutors be diligent in enforcing and prosecuting offenses committed against essential workers while on the job.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 171 and recommends its adoption.

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



KARL RHOADS, Chair



