

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

490

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 19 , 2021

RE: H.B. No. 539  
H.D. 2

Honorable Scott K. Saiki  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2021  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Higher Education & Technology, to which was referred H.B. No. 539, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THREAT ASSESSMENT,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish a program within the Hawaii State Fusion Center of the Office of Homeland Security to train, establish, and operate threat assessment teams, including within the Department of Education, State Public Charter School Commission, and University of Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Education and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Information Practices and Hawaii State Fusion Center.

Your Committee finds that it is important to be proactive through threat assessment actions and protocols to keep the community safe from violence and potential acts of violence. Your Committee further finds that threat assessment teams are key in crisis prevention. Establishing a multidisciplinary team of individuals with expertise and training in threat assessment as proposed in this measure will support agencies and individuals in appropriately responding to threats and identifying, evaluating, and addressing threats before they occur.

2021-1850 HB539 HD2 HSCR HMSO




Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing certain requirements relating to the authorization of the Hawaii State Fusion Center to provide criminal history information to vetted liaisons for threat assessment teams authorized by government agencies;
- (2) Specifying that only threat assessment team members from a criminal justice agency may receive restricted criminal justice information;
- (3) Removing the provision authorizing criminal history information to be disseminated to the Hawaii State Fusion Center;
- (4) Specifying that University of Hawaii education threat assessment teams shall include persons with training and experience in emergency preparedness; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 539, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 539, H.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Higher Education &  
Technology,

  
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GREGG TAKAYAMA, Chair



