

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **3742**

Honolulu, Hawaii

**APR 05 2024**

RE: H.B. No. 2553  
H.D. 2  
S.D. 2

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-Second State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2024  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred H.B. No. 2553, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PHARMACISTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize pharmacists to administer vaccines to persons three years of age or older;
- (2) Authorize pharmacy interns and pharmacy technicians under the direct supervision of a pharmacist to administer vaccinations to persons between the ages of three and seventeen, if certain requirements are met; and
- (3) Authorize pharmacists to order vaccines for administration to persons between the ages of three and seventeen.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; University of Hawai'i at Hilo; Disability and Communication Access Board; Board of Pharmacy; CVS Health; Retail Merchants of Hawaii; Times Pharmacy; Moloka'i Drugs, Inc.; American Pharmacists Association; Hawaii Pharmacists



Association; National Community Pharmacists Association; Walgreen Co.; and sixteen individuals.

Your Committee finds that during the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic, certain temporary amendments were made to the federal Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act to authorize pharmacists and certain pharmacy personnel to act beyond the limited scope of existing state law to order and administer a number of vaccines to children between the ages of three to seventeen, including routinely recommended childhood vaccinations. This temporary authority greatly helped minimize interruptions to patient access to necessary, routine, and recommended vaccination services. Your Committee finds that it is in the public interest for the State to codify in state law the temporary federal amendments before they end on December 31, 2024, and therefore, this measure permanently expands the role of licensed pharmacists and certain pharmacy personnel to administer vaccines to their communities and makes it easier for families to protect their children against influenza and other highly contagious diseases.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that pharmacists are authorized to administer vaccines to persons three years of age or older, not only persons between the ages of three and seventeen;
- (2) Clarifying that pharmacy interns and pharmacy technicians under the direct supervision of a pharmacist are authorized to administer vaccinations to persons three years of age or older, not only persons between the ages of three and seventeen;
- (3) Clarifying that pharmacists are authorized to order vaccines for administration to persons three years of age or older, not only persons between the ages of three and seventeen;
- (4) Requiring only pharmacy technicians, not pharmacy interns, to have a Certified Pharmacy Technician certification from either the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board or National Healthcareer Association to be authorized to administer a vaccine to a person three years of age or older;



- (5) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose; and
- (6) 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 H.B. No. 2553, 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. 2553, H.D. 2, S.D. 2.

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




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KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-Second Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

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

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>HB 2553 HD2SD1</b>	Committee Referral: <b>CPN/HHS, JDC</b>	Date: <b>04/04/24</b>		
<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
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)	✓			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	✓			
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.				
AWA, Brenton				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution:             Original     Yellow     Pink     Goldenrod File with Committee Report     Clerk's Office     Drafting Agency     Committee File Copy				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes