

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **2245**

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 12 2024

RE: S.B. No. 2977

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs and Commerce and Consumer Protection, to which was referred S.B. No. 2977 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO UNLICENSED CONTRACTORS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Make it unlawful for an unlicensed contractor to offer or perform repairs or improvements to a residential or nonresidential structure or property, or add to or subtract from grounds in connection with the structure or property, for damage or destruction caused by a natural disaster for which a state of emergency or disaster is proclaimed by the Governor; and
- (2) Require violations to be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000, imprisonment up to one year, or both, in addition to all other remedies or penalties.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Consumer Protection of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency, Subcontractors Association of Hawaii, and one individual.

Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Contractors License Board.



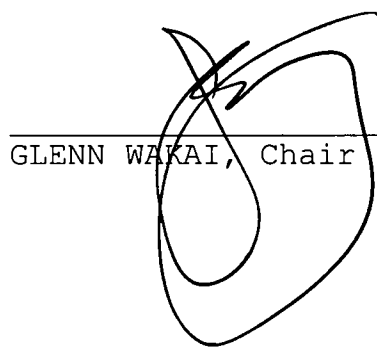
Your Committees find that the August 2023 wildfires on Maui caused significant property loss, including the destruction of Lahaina town. Your Committees further find that work performed by unlicensed contractors unfairly exposes Hawaii property owners to liability for poor workmanship and jobsite injuries and increases the likelihood of unlicensed contractor fraud in which an unlicensed contractor obtains payment and provides no work or incomplete work. This measure will prevent further harms from occurring during the repairs and new construction in connection with the August 2023 Maui wildfires, or any future natural disasters.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs and Commerce and Consumer Protection that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2977 and recommend that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committees on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs and Commerce and Consumer Protection,



JARRETT KEOHOKALOOLE, Chair

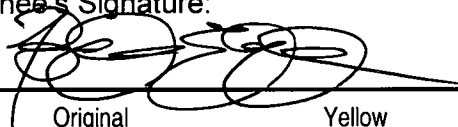


GLENN WAKAI, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Second Legislature
 State of Hawai'i


Record of Votes
Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
PSM

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB2977	Committee Referral: PSM/CPN, JDC	Date: 1/31/24		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
WAKAI, Glenn (C)	✓			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C. (VC)	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol	✓			
RHOADS, Karl	✓			
AWA, Brenton	✓			
TOTAL	5	0	0	0
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**

The Senate
 Thirty-Second Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
CPN

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 2977	Committee Referral: CPN / CPN, JDC	Date: 1/31/24		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett (C)	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol (VC)	✓			
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K.	✓			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim"				✓
AWA, Brenton	✓			
TOTAL	4			1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align: center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>				
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