

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1646

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 03 2025

RE: H.B. No. 237
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 237, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PEER SUPPORT PROGRAMS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to support parents and caregivers of children from birth to five years of age by appropriating moneys to the Family Health Services Division of the Department of Health to establish and oversee peer-to-peer support programs.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Department of Health, Department of Human Services, AlohaCare, Commit to Keiki, Family Hui Hawaii, Guardian Capital Management Hawaii, Hawaii Community Foundation, and numerous individuals.

Your Committee received written comments on this measure from the Executive Office on Early Learning.

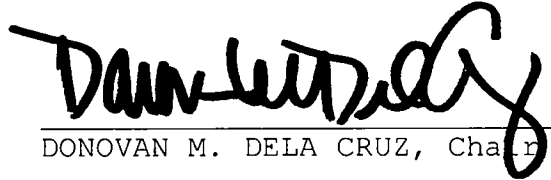
Your Committee finds that parenting can be challenging, especially for families whose basic needs are unmet. These challenges can lead to mental health struggles, child abuse, neglect, and substance addiction, all of which can result in early childhood trauma for children. Your Committee further finds that



peer-to-peer support programs can offer vital assistance to parents and caregivers, reducing negative practices and improving outcomes, while saving money through early investment in the prenatal-to-five-year time period.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 237, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

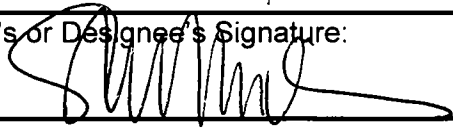
Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,


DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB237 HDI SD1	Committee Referral: HHS, WAM	Date: 3/31/2025		
<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
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y. (VC)	X			
AQUINO, Henry J.C.	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	X			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	X			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	X			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X			
KIM, Donna Mercado	X			
LEE, Chris	X			
WAKAI, Glenn	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
TOTAL	13	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