

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1307

Honolulu, Hawaii

**MAR 21 2025**

RE: H.B. No. 277  
H.D. 2  
S.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Transportation and Culture and the Arts and Public Safety and Military Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 277, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO VEHICULAR PURSUIT,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish a vehicular pursuit policy for law enforcement agencies.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the ACLU of Hawai'i and Policing Project at NYU School of Law.

Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Law Enforcement Standards Board and Hawai'i County Police Department.

Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General and Office of Information Practices.

Your Committees find that the current lack of standardized pursuit policies across the State's law enforcement agencies creates unnecessary risks and potential misuse of police discretion. Implementing basic requirements for pursuits to be authorized and for documenting them afterwards are common sense



measures to protect communities from risky action during a police pursuit. By setting expectations, standards, and reporting requirements for police practices, this measure will advance public safety and avoid needless fatalities and injuries.

Your Committees note the comments raised by the Law Enforcement Standards Board regarding the ambiguity of crimes that qualify as reasonable suspicion to authorize law enforcement to engage in a vehicular pursuit.

Accordingly, your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that no law enforcement officer shall engage in a vehicular pursuit unless the officer has a reasonable suspicion to believe that a person in the vehicle to be pursued is attempting to commit, has committed, or is committing a crime;
- (2) Deleting the list of qualified offenses that authorize law enforcement officer to engage in a vehicular pursuit;
- (3) Changing the responsibility from the Department of Law Enforcement to the Department of the Attorney General to:
  - (A) Receive an annual report from each law enforcement agency regarding vehicular pursuits;
  - (B) Make all information obtained from each annual report publicly available online; and
  - (C) Adopt rules regarding the collection and reporting of data by each law enforcement agency; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Transportation and Culture and the Arts and Public Safety and Military Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 277, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass



Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 277,  
H.D. 2, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Transportation  
and Culture and the Arts and  
Public Safety and Military  
Affairs,



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BRANDON J.C. ELEFANTE, Chair




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CHRIS LEE, Chair



The Senate  
Thirty-Third Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts**  
**TCA**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 277 HD2	TCA/PSM, JDC	3-10-2025		
<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 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
LEE, Chris (C)	✓			
INOUYE, Lorraine R. (VC)	✓			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	✓			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	✓			
DECORTE, Samantha			✓	
<b>TOTAL</b>	4		1	
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-Third Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

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

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>HB277 HD2</b>	Committee Referral: <b>TCA/PSM, JDC</b>	Date: <b>3/10/25</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
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C. (C)	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn (VC)	✓	✓		
FUKUNAGA, Carol	✓	✓		
RHOADS, Karl	✓			
DECORTE, Samantha			✓	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</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				

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