Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 2 5 2025

RE: H.B. No. 386

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred H.B. No. 386 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DANGEROUS DRUGS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to conform fentanyl to the possession offense thresholds for methamphetamine, heroin, morphine, and cocaine.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Law Enforcement, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Hawai'i, Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu, Honolulu Police Department, and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that fentanyl has emerged as one of the most potent and dangerous synthetic opioids, estimated to be fifty to one hundred times stronger than morphine. Your Committee believes that fentanyl's increasing prevalence in the State's communities demands appropriate legal classification and enforcement mechanisms. By aligning fentanyl with other dangerous drugs like methamphetamine, heroin, morphine, and cocaine, this measure will provide law enforcement with more precise guidelines for prosecution, ensure consistent application of the law, and enhance state and local law enforcement's ability to combat dangerous drug distribution and possession in the State.

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. 386, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

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

KARL RHOADS, Chair

The Senate Thirty-Third Legislature State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes Committee on Judiciary JDC

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:			Date:	
HB 386	JDC			3/11/25	
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to:					
The Recommendation is:					
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313					
Members		Aye	Aye (W	R) Nay	Excused
RHOADS, Karl (C)		V			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)		1/1			
CHANG, Stanley		V/			
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A	.	V			
AWA, Brenton				V	
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TOTAL		4			
Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted					
Chaif's or Designed's Signature:					
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy					
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^{*}Only one measure per Record of Votes