

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1053

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 28, 2025

RE: H.B. No. 963
H.D. 2

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 963, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMES AGAINST ELDERS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish strict liability for crimes against elders with respect to the attendant circumstance that the victim was sixty years of age or older.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu; Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Hawai'i; Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Maui; AARP Hawai'i; and four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of the Public Defender and one individual.

Your Committee finds that Act 147, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, provided additional protections for the State's senior citizens against physical, emotional, and financial exploitation. However, further clarification to state laws related to these protections is needed. Removing the requirement that a perpetrator knew the age of the victim prior to the offense strengthens the existing laws and ensures the safety and well-being of Hawaii's kupuna.

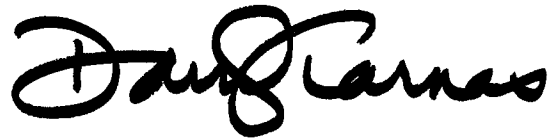
2025-2003 HB963 HD2 HSCR HMSO



Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 963, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 963, H.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary &
Hawaiian Affairs,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Tarnas", written in a cursive style.

DAVID A. TARNAS, Chair



HSC 1053

Bill/Resolution No.:	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 963 HD1	HCH, JHA	02/19/2025		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
JHA Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. TARNAS, David A. (C)	✓			
2. POEPOE, Mahina (VC)	✓			
3. BELATTI, Della Au	✓			
4. COCHRAN, Elle				✓
5. HASHEM, Mark J.	✓			
6. KAHALOA, Kirstin	✓			
7. PERRUSO, Amy A.	✓			
8. TAKAYAMA, Gregg	✓			
9. TODD, Chris	✓			
10. GARCIA, Diamond	✓			
11. SHIMIZU, Garner M.	✓			
TOTAL (11)	10	0	0	1
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				