

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 21 2025

RE: H.B. No. 998

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. 998 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONTENTS OF CITATIONS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to clarify that the omission of certain information or any error in a citation does not constitute a ground for dismissal of a charge or for reversal of a conviction, if the omission or error did not prejudice the defendant.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of the Attorney General, Department of Law Enforcement, and State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that currently, minor technical errors or omissions in citations can potentially result in the dismissal of charges. Despite these errors not substantively affecting a defendant's ability to understand the charges or mount a defense, they allow individuals to avoid accountability based on clerical mistakes, rather than the merits of the case. This measure will maintain the integrity of due process protection while ensuring that cases are decided on their merits, rather than be dismissed due to minor procedural technicalities.



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. 998, 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,

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

KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary
JDC

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB 998	Committee Referral: JDC	Date: 3/14/25		
<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
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)	✓			
CHANG, Stanley	✓			
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.	✓			
AWA, Brenton			✓	
TOTAL	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