

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

962

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 28 2025

RE: S.B. No. 183  
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 Judiciary, to which was referred S.B.  
No. 183, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION  
HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow impasses and disputes relating to the amounts of  
state and county contributions to the Hawaii  
Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund to be resolved  
by arbitration; and
- (2) Repeal the prohibition against strikes by members of  
bargaining units on the issue of the amounts of state  
and county contributions to the Trust Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local  
152, AFL-CIO; United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO;  
and University of Hawaii Professional Assembly.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this  
measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.



Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Human Resources Development.

Your Committee finds that existing law does not provide a dispute resolution mechanism to address the employee-employer share of monthly contributions to the Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund (EUTF), effectively rendering the negotiable item one-sided and employer controlled. Your Committee further finds that the cost burden of health insurance for many public employees is magnified by the high cost of living in the State. This measure enables public employees to negotiate employer contributions to EUTF by establishing a dispute resolution mechanism that allows for arbitration and strikes.

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 S.B. No. 183, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

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



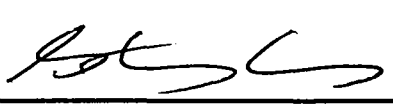
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KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate  
Thirty-Third Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Judiciary**  
**JDC**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">SB 183, SD1</div>	Committee Referral: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">LBT, JDC</div>	Date: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">2/21/25</div>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313         </div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)				✓
CHANG, Stanley	✓			
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.	✓			
AWA, Brenton	✓			
TOTAL	4			1
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted         <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted         </div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive; text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Distribution:</div> <div>Original</div> <div>Yellow</div> <div>Pink</div> <div>Goldenrod</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em; margin-top: 5px;"> <div>File with Committee Report</div> <div>Clerk's Office</div> <div>Drafting Agency</div> <div>Committee File Copy</div> </div>				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes