

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 27 2025

RE: S.B. No. 319

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. 319 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MARIJUANA,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Change from one ounce to thirty grams the minimum amount of marijuana that constitutes the offense of promoting a detrimental drug in the second degree; and
- (2) Increase from three grams or less to fifteen grams or less the amount of marijuana that constitutes the offense of promoting a detrimental drug in the third degree.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of the Public Defender, Community Alliance on Prisons, Marijuana Policy Project, ACLU Hawai'i, and Hawai'i Alliance for Cannabis Reform.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of the Attorney General, Department of Law Enforcement, Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu, Hawai'i Police Department, Honolulu Police Department, Smart Approaches to Marijuana Hawaii, Hawaii Family Forum, and nine individuals.



Your Committee finds that the consequences of arresting, prosecuting, and incarcerating people for personal drug use are devastating. People who have been convicted of possession of small amounts of marijuana cycle through the criminal justice system and are not able to successfully contribute to society or have the support of their social network. Additionally, a criminal record can carry lasting, detrimental effects on finding employment, housing, and accessing educational opportunities. This measure will make the State's cannabis laws more responsible, just, and equitable.

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. 319 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,



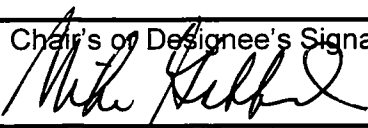
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KARL RHOADS, Chair



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 319</div>	Committee Referral: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">JDC</div>	Date: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">2/11/25</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-around; 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	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	3	—	1	+ 12
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center; margin-top: 5px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted         <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted         </div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>				
Distribution: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 5px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">Original File with Committee Report</div> <div style="text-align: center;">Yellow Clerk's Office</div> <div style="text-align: center;">Pink Drafting Agency</div> <div style="text-align: center;">Goldenrod Committee File Copy</div> </div>				

**\*Only one measure per Record of Votes**