

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 02 2025

RE: S.C.R. No. 205
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 Health and Human Services, to which was referred S.C.R. No. 205 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ADOPT RULES ESTABLISHING A MAXIMUM DECIBEL LEVEL FOR CONCERTS OR EVENTS AT PRIVATE VENUES GENERATING NOISE IN PRIMARILY RESIDENTIAL AREAS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the Department of Health to adopt rules establishing maximum decibel level for concerts or events at private venues generating noise in primarily residential areas.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Environmental Health Services Division of the Department of Health.

Your Committee finds that noise pollution is a public health hazard that continues to negatively affect residents of the State, leading to health problems such as noise-induced hearing loss, high blood pressure, heart disease, sleep disturbances, and stress. Your Committee further finds that concerts or events held at private venues are currently not subject to permitting requirements. Accordingly, this measure supports public health by requesting the Department of Health to adopt rules to reduce



excessive noise pollution from concerts or events held at private venues.

Your Committee notes the concern raised in testimony regarding the complexity of regulating noise pollution due to overlapping jurisdictions among the Department of Health, county law enforcement agencies, and county code compliance programs, depending on the noise source and circumstances. Your Committee acknowledges that requesting the Department of Health to adopt rules without conducting due diligence into the specific issues of noise pollution regulation and overlapping jurisdictions is likely to have significant negative unintended consequences. Therefore, there is a need to amend this measure to address this concern.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the Department of Health to convene a Community Noise Working Group to discuss policies and legislation with respect to noise sources affecting the community, rather than adopt rules establishing a maximum decibel level for concerts or events at private venues generating noise in primarily residential areas;
- (2) Inserting language requesting the Community Noise Working Group to include the Director of Health or the Director's designee as chair of the working group, other stakeholders from the State and City and County of Honolulu, and a noise expert;
- (3) Inserting language to request the Community Noise Working Group to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2027;
- (4) Amending its title accordingly; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health and Human Services that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of



S.C.R. No. 205, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 205, S.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Health and Human
Services,



JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Chair



Record of Votes
Committee on Health and Human Services
HHS

*Only one measure per Record of Votes