

THE SENATE  
KA 'AHA KENEKOA

THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2025

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Friday, February 7, 2025  
TIME: 9:25 AM  
PLACE: Conference Room 016 & Videoconference  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

PHOTO ID REQUIRED FOR ENTRANCE TO THE STATE CAPITOL  
BUILDING HOURS: 7AM TO 5PM, MONDAY - FRIDAY

*The Legislature is accepting written, videoconference, and in-person testimony at public hearings.*  
A live stream of all Senate Standing Committee meetings will be available on the [Senate YouTube Channel](#).

A G E N D A

**SB 1320**

[Status &  
Testimony](#)

RELATING TO SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS RELATED TO THE  
MAUI WILDFIRES.

JDC, WAM

Makes general fund appropriations for fiscal years 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 to fund the settlement of claims related to the Maui wildfires. Establishes the Maui Wildfires Settlement Trust Fund to be administered by the Attorney General.

**SB 1514**

[Status &  
Testimony](#)

RELATING TO THE LEGISLATURE.

JDC, WAM

Establishes a temporary working group to study the feasibility of transitioning the Hawaii State Legislature's regular session from one that meets for 3.5 months from mid-January to early May, to one that meets on a year-round basis. Requires the Legislative Reference Bureau to provide administrative support to the working group. Requires report to Legislature. Appropriates moneys.

**SB 544**

[Status &  
Testimony](#)

RELATING TO SENTENCING OF MINOR DEFENDANTS.

JDC

Requires courts to consider certain factors when sentencing a person convicted as an adult for an offense that the person committed when the person was a minor. Allows courts to reduce a mandatory minimum period of incarceration or depart from a mandatory sentencing enhancement if the court determines that the reduction or departure is warranted given certain factors.

**SB 691**

[Status &  
Testimony](#)

RELATING TO FAMILY COURTS.

JDC

Establishes a minimum age of twelve for delinquency adjudication.

<a href="#"><u>SB 1028</u></a>	RELATING TO YOUTH FEES AND FINES.	JDC
<a href="#"><u>Status &amp; Testimony</u></a>	Allows community service in place of the assessment of any fines, fees, or court costs against a person who was adjudicated for a traffic-related offense committed while the person was a minor under the age of 18 years, or against the person's parent or guardian.	
<a href="#"><u>SB 1310</u></a>	RELATING TO CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECKS.	JDC
<a href="#"><u>Status &amp; Testimony</u></a>	Deletes the term "agent of the contractor" in sections 28-17 and 846-2.7, HRS, to comply with requirements of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The Federal Bureau of Investigation deemed the term overly broad for purposes of accessing its criminal history background information. Clarifies that "contractor's employees" who have access to federal tax information held by the Department of the Attorney General may be subject to fingerprint-based background checks.	
<a href="#"><u>SB 1319</u></a>	RELATING TO IDENTIFICATION PROCESSING.	JDC
<a href="#"><u>Status &amp; Testimony</u></a>	Requires that the Attorney General's identification system include criminal cases initiated via citations that resulted in conviction, deferred acceptance of guilty or nolo contendere plea, or conditional discharge, and that a court order identification processing in such cases.	
<a href="#"><u>SB 1545</u></a>	RELATING TO NEPOTISM.	JDC
<a href="#"><u>Status &amp; Testimony</u></a>	Repeals language in the State's Code of Ethics that exempts the Legislative Branch from prohibitions against nepotism in public employment.	

Decision Making to follow, if time permits.

All testimony received by the Hawai'i Senate is posted on the Hawai'i Legislature's website, which is accessible to the public. Please do not include private information that you do not want disclosed to the public.

Please go to the Legislature's website, <https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov>, to submit **written testimony** at least 24 hours prior to the hearing. Create a free account on the website, or sign in to an existing account, then click on the "Participate" drop down menu and select the "Submit Testimony" option to get started. While submitting your written testimony, you will be prompted to indicate if you would also like to testify at the hearing in-person or remotely via videoconference.

Please note the following:

- The number of oral testifiers and/or time allotted to each testifier may be limited by the Chair when necessary to adhere to the committee hearing schedule. We may not be able to accommodate everyone who requests to testify orally.
- Testifiers for this hearing will be limited to **2 minutes** each.

If you wish to **testify via videoconference** during the hearing, please review the detailed step-by-step instructions for testimony procedures before you submit your written testimony. Here's a direct link to the instructions: <https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/docs/testimonyinstructions.pdf>

For general help navigating the committee hearing process, please contact the Public Access Room at (808) 587-0478 or [par@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:par@capitol.hawaii.gov). You can also visit their website at <https://lrb.hawaii.gov/par/>.

For special assistance: The cable TV broadcast and/or live stream of this meeting will include closed captioning. If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, please call the committee clerk at

the telephone number listed below or email [JDCcommittee@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:JDCcommittee@capitol.hawaii.gov). Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled.

For amended notices: Measures that have been deleted are stricken through and measures that have been added are underscored. If a measure is both underscored and stricken through, that measure has been deleted from the agenda.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE COMMITTEE CLERK AT (808) 587-7211.

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Senator Karl Rhoads  
Chair