

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 24 2025

RE: S.B. No. 176
S.D. 1
H.D. 1
C.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Sir and Madam:

Your Committee on Conference on the disagreeing vote of the Senate to the amendments proposed by the House of Representatives in S.B. No. 176, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RECOUNTS,"

having met, and after full and free discussion, has agreed to recommend and does recommend to the respective Houses the final passage of this bill in an amended form.

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow for ballots designated by the county clerks for inclusion to be included in the initial tabulation for purposes of initial recounts;
- (2) Prohibit ballots that the county clerks initially determine are deficient or need additional time to be corrected or verified from being included in the initial tabulation; and



- (3) Increase the minimum threshold required to trigger an automatic recount.

Your Committee on Conference finds that under existing law, the required vote difference to cause an automatic recount by the State or county is the lower of two benchmarks, which are either less than one hundred votes between the top two candidates or less than one-quarter of one percent of the total number of votes cast in that race. Your Committee on Conference further finds that most states that require automatic recounts use the standard margin of vote difference that is double that required by existing law: one-half of one percent of the total number of votes in that race. This measure will align the State's minimum requirements to trigger an automatic recount with the minimum threshold set by the majority of other states that require automatic recounts.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by making it effective upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 176, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 176, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on behalf
of the managers:

ON THE PART OF THE HOUSE



DAVID A. TARNAS
Chair

ON THE PART OF THE SENATE



KARL RHOADS
Chair



Hawai'i State Legislature

CCR 11

Record of Votes of a Conference Committee

Bill / Concurrent Resolution No.: SB 176, SD 1, HD 1	Date/Time: <i>4/21/25 2:02 pm</i>
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The recommendation of the House and Senate managers is to pass with amendments (CD).

The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision.

The recommendation of the Senate Manager(s) is to AGREE to the House amendments made to the Senate Measure

The recommendation of the House Manager(s) is to AGREE to the Senate amendments made to the House Measure.

Senate Managers	A	WR	N	E	House Managers	A	WR	N	E
RHOADS, Karl, Chr.	✓				TARNAS, David A., Chr.	✓			
CHANG, Stanley				✓	POEPOE, Mahina	✓			
GABBARD, Mike	✓				SHIMIZU, Garner M.	✓			
TOTAL	2	0	0	1	TOTAL	3	0	0	0

A = Aye WR = Aye with Reservations N = Nay E = Excused

Senate Recommendation is:
 Adopted Not Adopted

House Recommendation is:
 Adopted Not Adopted

Senate Lead Chair's or Designee's Signature:
Karl Rhoads

House Lead Chair's or Designee's Signature:
David Tarnas

Distribution: **Original** **Yellow** **Pink** **Goldenrod**
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