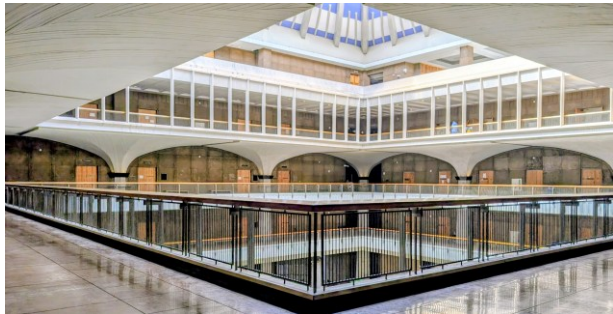




Public Access Room (PAR)
808-587-0478
par@capitol.hawaii.gov
<https://lrb.hawaii.gov/par>



Using the Interim

June 2026

In this presentation, we'll talk about some of the things that happen during the interim (like new bills and new HRS) and how you can best use this time to prepare for next year's session.

The business of lawmaking is a year-round process, and the interim is an important part of that process.

Topics of Discussion

- Governor's Role & Deadlines
- How to Find the Acts (and the Law)
- How You Can Use the Interim
- Working with Legislators During the Interim
- Q & A

In this presentation, we're going to talk about the following topics:

1. The Governor's Role in the bill-to-law process and his deadlines for this year in reviewing bills passed by the Legislature.
2. Finding the Acts and other relevant information on bills passed.
3. Regrouping and reassessing after Session: How you can use the Interim
4. Working with Legislators in the Interim.

And we'll finish the discussion with a Q&A.

Governor's Role

- Procedure for enactment is defined in Article III, Section 16 of the Hawaii State Constitution
- Approval or Veto
- How to contact the Governor



Let's start by talking about the Governor's role in the bill-to-law process. The Governor plays a very important role in the enactment of state legislation. When a bill successfully passes through the Legislature, it needs to be presented to the Governor (except constitutional amendments)

The procedure for enactment, which is defined in Article III, Section 16 of the Hawaii State Constitution, varies based on when a bill is delivered to the Governor and the Governor's subsequent action or inaction in considering the bill. We'll discuss that in the next slide.

Every bill that passes the legislature is certified by the presiding officers and clerks of both houses and presented to the Governor. If the governor approves it, the governor will sign it and it will become law. If the governor does not approve the bill, he may return it, with his objections to the legislature. Except for items appropriated to be expended by the judicial and legislative branches, the governor can veto any specific item or items in any bill which appropriates money for specific purposes by striking out or reducing the same; but shall veto other bills, if at all, only as a whole.

The Legislature can successfully override a veto in special session by a 2/3 vote in each chamber. The Legislature can also amend a bill to answer the governor's objections. For it to become law, a majority of the members in each chamber would be required to vote in favor of the amended bill, and the governor would then have 10 days to sign it.

You can contact the Governor to express support or opposition on bills that have been sent to him. We'll show you how to do that a few slides in.

Governor's Deadlines

MAY 8

Adjournment Sine Die
(Last Day of Session)

JULY 15

Last day to

- SIGN bills,
- VETO bills, or
- ALLOW BILLS TO BECOME LAW WITHOUT SIGNATURE



JUNE 30

Last day for the
Governor to submit
intent to veto list to the
Legislature

July 15th:

Deadline for the Governor to deliver the veto.
The Legislature can override a veto with 2/3
vote in each chamber in special session,
but must convene before noon on July 15th.



The Governor has until July 15th (45th day after adjournment sine die) to either sign a bill into law, to veto it, or allow it to become law automatically. If the governor intends to veto a bill, he needs to let the legislature know by June 30, 2026.

PAR's Governor's Deadline handout can be accessed from our Current Legislature webpage – under the Calendar and Deadlines section.

QR code points to PAR's Current Legislature webpage:

<https://lrb.hawaii.gov/par/current-legislature/>

Example of line item vetoes

Section 16. Every bill which shall have passed the legislature shall be certified by the presiding officers and clerks of both houses and shall thereupon be presented to the governor. If the governor approves it, the governor shall sign it and it shall become law. If the governor does not approve such bill, the governor may return it, with the governor's objections to the legislature. Except for items appropriated to be expended by the judicial and legislative branches, the governor may veto any specific item or items in any bill which appropriates money for specific purposes by striking out or reducing the same; but the governor shall veto other bills, if at all, only as a whole.

2024 HB2619, Act 231
(Relating to Agricultural Biosecurity)

AGR 846 EE	Environmental Health Specialist	95038A	A	1.00	63,096	15,774.92	
AGR 846 EE	Environmental Health Specialist	95039A	A	1.00	63,096	15,774.92	
AGR 846 EE	Environmental Health Specialist	95040A	A	1.00	63,096	15,774.92	
AGR 846 EE	Environmental Health Specialist	95041A	A	1.00	63,096		
AGR 846 EE	Environmental Health Specialist	95042A	A	1.00	63,096		
AGR 846 EE	Environmental Health Specialist	95043A	A	1.00	63,096		
AGR 846 EE	Environmental Health Specialist	95044A	A	1.00	76,788		
AGR 846 EE	Environmental Health Specialist	95045A	A	1.00	86,376		
AGR 846 EE	Accountant	95046A	A	1.00	68,280		
AGR 846 EE	Planner	95047A	A	1.00	68,280	17,070.94	
				GRAND TOTAL	44.00	0.00	40,780,668 10,000,000.00

1 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
2 agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 7. There is appropriated out of the general
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of ~~\$200,000~~ ^{\$0} or so much

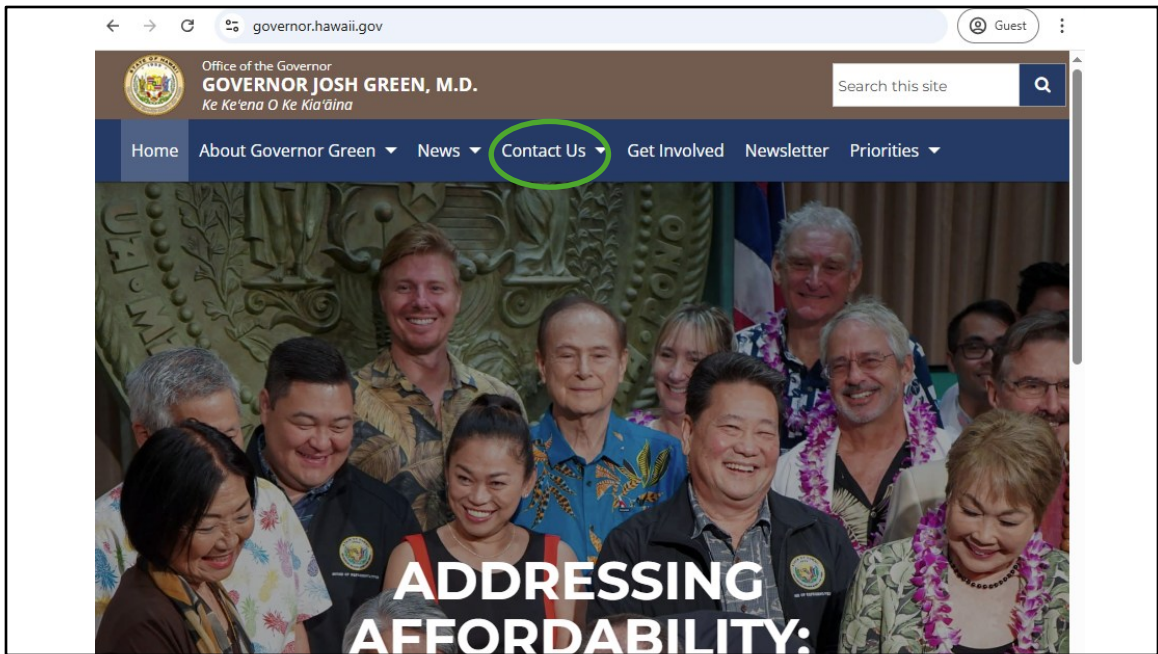
<https://lrb.hawaii.gov/constitution/#articleiii>

Example bill of line item vetoes in an appropriations bill (HB2619 of 2024):
https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session/archives/measure_indiv_Archives.aspx?billtype=HB&billnumber=2619&year=2024

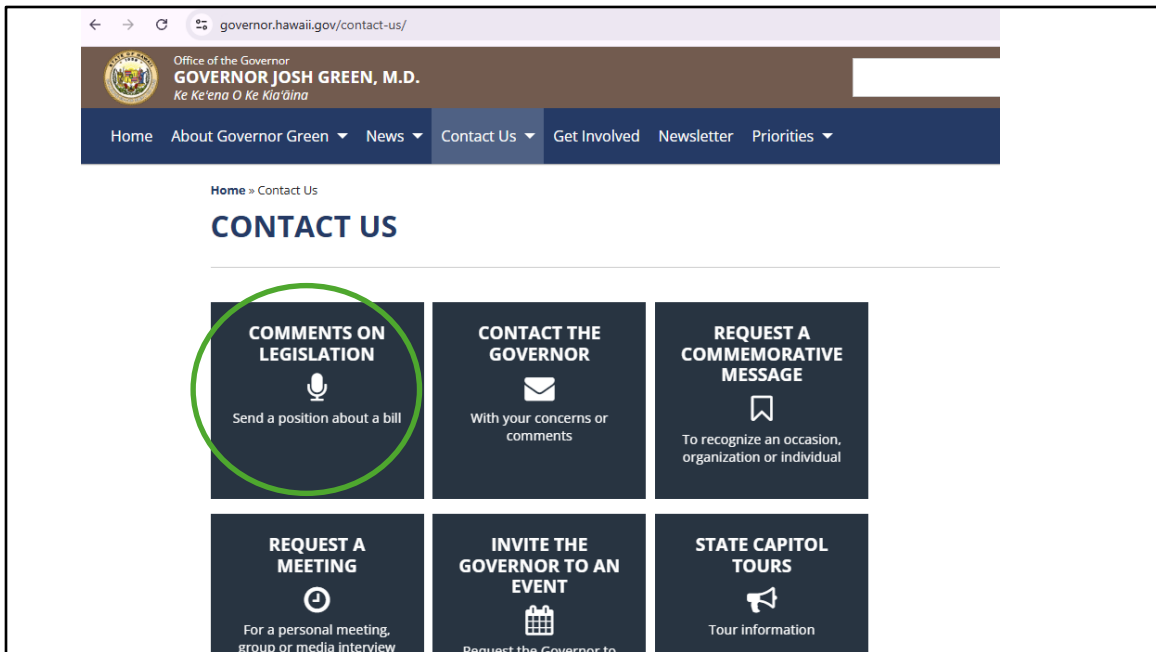
Contacting the Governor

The screenshot shows the Hawaii State Capitol website. At the top, there is a blue navigation bar with the text "Ka 'Aha'ōlelo Moku'āina 'O Hawaii'" and several menu items: "LEGISLATURE", "EVENTS", "PARTICIPATE", "LAWS & RESEARCH", and "HELP & INFO". Below this is a large image of a "Public Access Room" with a text overlay: "Public Access Room PAR provides the public with information, facilities, and services to assist them as they engage and participate in the State legislative process." A "Learn more" link is visible below the text. A green callout box on the right says: "On capitol.hawaii.gov scroll down to the very bottom of the page". Below the image is a dark grey navigation menu with the following categories: "LEGISLATURE" (with sub-links: House, Senate, House Jobs, Senate Jobs), "EXECUTIVE" (with sub-links: Governor Josh Green, Lt. Governor Sylvia Luke), "REFERENCE" (with sub-links: Legislative Reference Bureau, Public Access Room, Hawaii Directory State, County, Federal Officials), and "CONTACT" (with sub-links: Hawaii State Capitol, 415 South Beretani, Honolulu, HI 96813). A second green callout box on the right says: "Or visit governor.hawaii.gov". At the bottom of the page, there are links for "OFFICES", "U.S. LEGISLATORS", and "COUNTY".

If you want to contact the governor regarding legislation that has been sent by the legislature, you can use the link from the legislature's website to get to the Governor's webpage. The link is located on the bottom of the homepage, or you can get there directly by going to governor.hawaii.gov.



From the homepage of the governor's website select the "contact us" tab to get to the contact page.



Once here, you can use the Comments on Legislation box to ask for the Governor’s support or opposition on a bill sent by the legislature.

Screenshot of the Governor's office website showing a "COMMENTS ON LEGISLATION" contact form. The form includes fields for Prefix, First name, Last name, Street Address, and Street Address Line 2. A right-hand sidebar contains fields for Bill Number (Ex. HB0001), Position, and Message, along with an Attachment section. A SUBMIT button is at the bottom right.

Screenshot of the Governor's office – comments on legislation contact form. After entering your contact information, you can input a bill number and your position: support, oppose, or comments, and type in a message or attach a document.

Finding the 2026 Acts

The screenshot shows a web page titled "Legislature" with a list of links under the "Governor's Actions" section. The "Acts" link is circled in green. The links listed are:

- [Bills that Passed Legislature \(Report complete after all bills are sent to the Governor\)](#)
- [Resolutions Adopted](#)
- [Constitutional Amendment bills that passed in final form](#)
- [Constitutional Amendment bills yet to pass in final form](#)
- [Acts](#)**
- [Bills Pending Governor's Action](#)
- [Bills signed by the Governor](#)
- [Bills that became law without Governor's signature](#)
- [Governor's Intent to Veto](#)
- [Bills vetoed by the Governor](#)
- [List of Veto Overrides](#)

Scroll down the Reports & Lists page until you see the box titled "Governor's Actions"

On the "Reports and Lists page on the Legislature's website: capitol.hawaii.gov, scroll down to "Governor's Actions." The first link is to the Acts. You can also find links to other information on bills enrolled/transmitted by the Legislature. The reports link will update as the Governor takes action on the pending bills.

Finding the Acts

Acts

Deadline Tracking

[Print](#)

[Export to Excel](#)

[Export to CSV](#)

[Back to report selection screen](#)

123 records returned.

Hawaii State Legislature

Act#	Measure Status	Current Status	Introducer(s)	Current Referral
1	HB2240 HD1 Legislative Agencies: Appropriations (4) MAKING APPROPRIATIONS TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE LEGISLATURE, THE AUDITOR, THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU, THE OMBUDSMAN, AND THE ETHICS COMMISSION. Appropriates funds to provide for the expenses of the Legislature, Auditor, Legislative Reference Bureau, Ombudsman, and Ethics Commission. (HD1)	(H) 3/23/2026 - Act 001, on 03/26/2026 (Gov. Msg. No. 1101).	NAKAMURA	WAM
2	SB3123 SD1 Educational Gifts: Donor-Conditioned Educational Awards: Conditional Gifts: School-Conditioned Enrollment: Contractual Relationships RELATING TO PRIVATE SUPPORT OF EDUCATION. Clarifies that free tuition at private educational institutions or school-conditioned enrollment at private educational institutions where no tuition or other monetary consideration is required or paid by the recipient are to be considered conditional gifts that support educational advancements rather than contractual obligations unless the parties agree otherwise in writing. (SD1)	(H) 3/26/2026 - Act 002, on 03/27/2026 (Gov. Msg. No. 1102).	KOUCHI (Introduced by request of another party)	JHA
3	SB3225 Revision Bill A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO STATUTORY REVISION: AMENDING OR REPEALING VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF THE HAWAII REVISED STATUTES OR THE SESSION LAWS OF HAWAII FOR THE PURPOSES OF CORRECTING ERRORS AND REFERENCES, CLARIFYING LANGUAGE, OR DELETING OBSOLETE OR UNNECESSARY PROVISIONS. Amends or repeals various provisions of the HRS or the SLH for the purposes of correcting errors and references, clarifying language, or deleting obsolete or unnecessary provisions.	(H) 4/14/2026 - Act 003, on 04/17/2026 (Gov. Msg. No. 1103).	KOUCHI (Introduced by request of another party)	JHA
4	SB2256 Brother Joseph Dutton Day: Day of Observance RELATING TO BROTHER JOSEPH DUTTON DAY. Designates April 27 of every year as Brother Joseph Dutton Day.	(H) 4/24/2026 - Act 004, on 04/23/2026 (Gov. Msg. No. 1104).	DECOITE, CHANG, ELEFANTE, FEVELLA, GABBARD, HASHIMOTO, INOUE, MCKELVEY, MORIWAKI, RICHARDS, SAN BERNVENTURA	CAA, JHA
5	HB2088 Judiciary Package: Family Courts: Adoptions: Consent: Notary RELATING TO ADOPTIONS. Adds the requirement that a written consent to adoption be notarized.	(H) 4/29/2026 - Act 005, on 04/28/2026 (Gov. Msg. No. 1105).	NAKAMURA (Introduced by request of another party)	HHS, JDC
6	HB2089 Judiciary Package: Hawaii Supreme Court: Certiorari Review: Disposition Deadline RELATING TO CERTIORARI REVIEW BY THE HAWAII SUPREME COURT. Establishes a fixed disposition deadline requiring the Supreme Court to decide an application for certiorari within 60 days after the application is filed. Applies prospectively to cases in which the judgment or dismissal order of the Intermediate Court of Appeals was filed on or after the effective date of this act.	(H) 4/29/2026 - Act 006, on 04/28/2026 (Gov. Msg. No. 1106).	NAKAMURA (Introduced by request of another party)	JDC
7	HB2090 Judiciary Package: Family Courts: Domestic Abuse: Temporary Restraining Orders: Protective Orders: Public Inspection RELATING TO DOMESTIC ABUSE ORDERS FOR PROTECTION. Removes the requirement that requests to withhold from public inspection the petition record of a denied temporary restraining order or denied protective order be made orally.	(H) 4/29/2026 - Act 007, on 04/28/2026 (Gov. Msg. No. 1107).	NAKAMURA (Introduced by request of another party)	JDC
8	HB2099 Office of Elections Package: Vacancies: Candidates: State Senators RELATING TO VACANCIES.	(H) 4/29/2026 - Act 008, on 04/28/2026 (Gov. Msg. No. 1108).	NAKAMURA (Introduced by request of another party)	JDC

This is how it'll look like in the report. Click on the Act number to see the Governor's Message and the Act...

Pending Bills



Here's a better look the Governor's Actions portion of the Reports and Lists page. If you clicked on the *Bill's pending Governor's Action* link. It will take you to that report.

Bills Pending Governor's Action

Deadline Tracking

[Print](#)
[Export to Excel](#)
[Export to CSV](#)
[Back to report selection screen](#)

144 records returned.

Hawaii State Legislature



	Measure Status	Current Status	Introducer(s)	Current Referral	Committee
HB472	HB472 HD1 SD2 CD1 Digitized Identification Cards: Valid Identification RELATING TO DIGITAL IDENTIFICATION. Authorizes the display of a mobile driver's license to a law enforcement officer on a mobile electronic device, under certain conditions. Limits a law enforcement officer's access to only the information necessary to verify the driver's license credential when displayed electronically. (CD1)	(H) 5/7/2016 - Transmitted to Governor.	LEE, H., AMATO, BELATTI, HASHEM, HICE, IIMAHOTO, KEOKOKAPA-LEE LOV, KITAGAWA, KUSCH, LOMEN, MARTEN, NEVAK, OLDS, PEDROCK, SAYAMA, TAKAYAMA, TOSO, TAN.	PSM/CPH, JDC	
HB1334	HB1334 HD3 SD2 CD2 Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity: Department of Health: Axis Deer Meat Donation Pilot Program: Food Donation: Charitable, Religious, or Nonprofit Organizations RELATING TO MEAT DONATIONS. Establishes an Axis Deer Meat Donation Pilot Program to exempt the donation of axis deer meat to a charitable, religious, or nonprofit organization for the purpose of feeding needy individuals from certain laws regarding the inspection and transportation of axis deer meat, carcasses, and meat products, subject to certain requirements. Requires reports to the Legislature. Sunsets 6/30/2033. (CD2)	(H) 5/18/2016 - Transmitted to Governor.	MEYER, COCHMAN, KILA, KUSCH, LANOAOA, SOUZA, TAKAYAMA, TANI, TARNAK, MATAYOSHI	HHS, JDC/CPH	SB1230
HB1391	HB1391 HD1 SD1 CD2 DBEDT: Hawaii-Ireland Trade Commission: Establishment: Reports RELATING TO TRADE. Establishes the Hawaii-Ireland Trade Commission within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism for administrative purposes. Requires the Commission to submit annual reports to the Legislature and Governor. Sunsets 6/30/2031. (CD2)	(H) 5/7/2016 - Transmitted to Governor.	QUINLAN	EDT/WLA, WAM	
HB1481	HB1481 HD2 SD1 CD1 DCH: Disposition of Remains: Burial-transit Permit: Cemetery: Crematory: Funeral Establishment: Hydrolysis Facility: Mortuary RELATING TO HUMAN REMAINS. Requires any cemetery, crematory, funeral establishment, hydrolysis facility, or mortuary to dispose of the remains of a dead human body no later than sixty days from the later of either the date a burial-transit permit has been issued or the date of an affidavit for amendment of the permit has been submitted. (CD1)	(H) 5/7/2016 - Transmitted to Governor.	TAKENOUCHE	CPH	SB1630
HB1509	HB1509 HD2 SD1 CD1 Workers' Compensation: Treatment Plan: Response: Penalty RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION. Repeals the authorization of a physician to transmit a treatment plan by mail or facsimile and the requirement that the physician submit the plan to an address or facsimile number provided by the employer. Requires an employer to file a response, either accepting or objecting to a treatment plan, within ten days of receipt. Imposes a monetary penalty if an employer does not file a response within the ten-day period, unless there was good cause for the delay. Clarifies that a treatment plan is deemed accepted if an employer fails to file certain documents within the ten-day period. Imposes penalties on employers found to have improperly denied a treatment plan. (CD1)	(H) 5/7/2016 - Transmitted to Governor.	MATAYOSHI, GRANDINETTI, ILGALAN, KAHALOA, KILA, KITAGAWA, KUSCH, LEE, H., MARTEN, HORIKAWA, OLDS, TAKAYAMA, TANI, TARNAK, TEMPLD	LAB, CPH, FIN	SB2393
HB1515	HB1515 HD2 SD1 CD1 Workers' Compensation: Functional Capacity Examination: Occupational Therapy: Physical Therapy RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION. Authorizes an attending physician to request a functional capacity examination and refer an injured employee for the examination without first obtaining permission from the employee's employer in order to assess the employee's ability to return to work. Allows licensed occupational and physical therapists to be deemed qualified to perform functional capacity examinations. (CD1)	(H) 5/7/2016 - Transmitted to Governor.	MATAYOSHI, GRANDINETTI, ILGALAN, KILA, KITAGAWA, LEE, H., MARTEN, OLDS, TAKAYAMA, TARNAK,	LAB, CPH, FIN	
HB1548	HB1548 HD1 SD1 CD1 Penal Code: Misdemeanors: Sentencing: Nonviolent Offenses RELATING TO SENTENCING. Limits the maximum term of imprisonment for misdemeanors that are not crimes of violence, or for offenses that are not crimes of violence punishable by up to or not exceeding one year, to three hundred sixty-four days. Allows individuals previously sentenced to a one-year term of imprisonment for an offense that is not a crime of violence to apply to the trial court for reconsideration of the sentence to conform to the revised maximum penalty. (CD1)	(H) 5/7/2016 - Transmitted to Governor.	TARNAK, AMATO, ILGALAN, IIMAHOTO, KEOKOKAPA-LEE LOV, KUSCH, MARTEN, PEDROCK, POEPOE, SOUZA, TAKAYAMA, TANI, TOSO	JDC	SB2731

Bills Pending Governor's Actions: looks like this. You can use these links to see all the bills that the governor hasn't acted on. The number of measures in this list will decrease as action is taken.

Measure Status Text

[HBI440 HDI](#)



[Submit Testimony](#)

Measure Title: MAKING APPROPRIATIONS TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE LEGISLATURE, THE AUDITOR, THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU, THE OMBUDSMAN, AND THE ETHICS COMMISSION.

Report Title: Legislative Agencies; Appropriations; General Fund Expenditure Ceiling Exceeded (\$)

Description: Appropriates funds to provide for the expenses of the Legislature, Auditor, Legislative Reference Bureau, Ombudsman, and Ethics Commission. Declares that certain appropriations will further exceed the state general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025. (HDI)

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: WAM

Introducer(s): NAKAMURA

Act 1

Sentry Date	Status Text
3/13/2025	H Act 001, on 03/12/2025 (Gov. Msg. No. 1101).
3/13/2025	S Act 001, 03/12/2025 (Gov. Msg. No. 1101).
2/27/2025	H Transmitted to Governor.
2/27/2025	H Returned from senate (Sen. Com. No. 18).

All Versions of this Measure

[HBI440_HDI](#)
[HBI440](#)

Committee Reports

[HBI440_HDI_HSCR182](#)
[HBI440_HDI_SSCR709](#)

Testimony

[HBI440_TESTIMONY_FIN_02-04-25](#)
[HBI440_HDI_TESTIMONY_WAM_02-18-25](#)

Hearing Notices

FIN	2/04/25 2:00P 308 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE	Agenda YouTube
WAM	2/18/25 10:00A CR 211 & Videoconference	Agenda YouTube

If you just want to follow your own bill, look it up like you usually would and you can see the updates on your bill's status page, where the history is updated to include the bill becoming an act (like in our example here.)

You can click on the Act number to see the Governor's Message (GM)

capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2025/bills/GM1101_PDF

GM1101_PDF 1 / 11 100%

GOV. MSG. NO. 1101

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'AINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'AINA

March 12, 2025

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate,
and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Nadine Nakamura
Speaker, and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Nakamura, and Members of the Legislature:

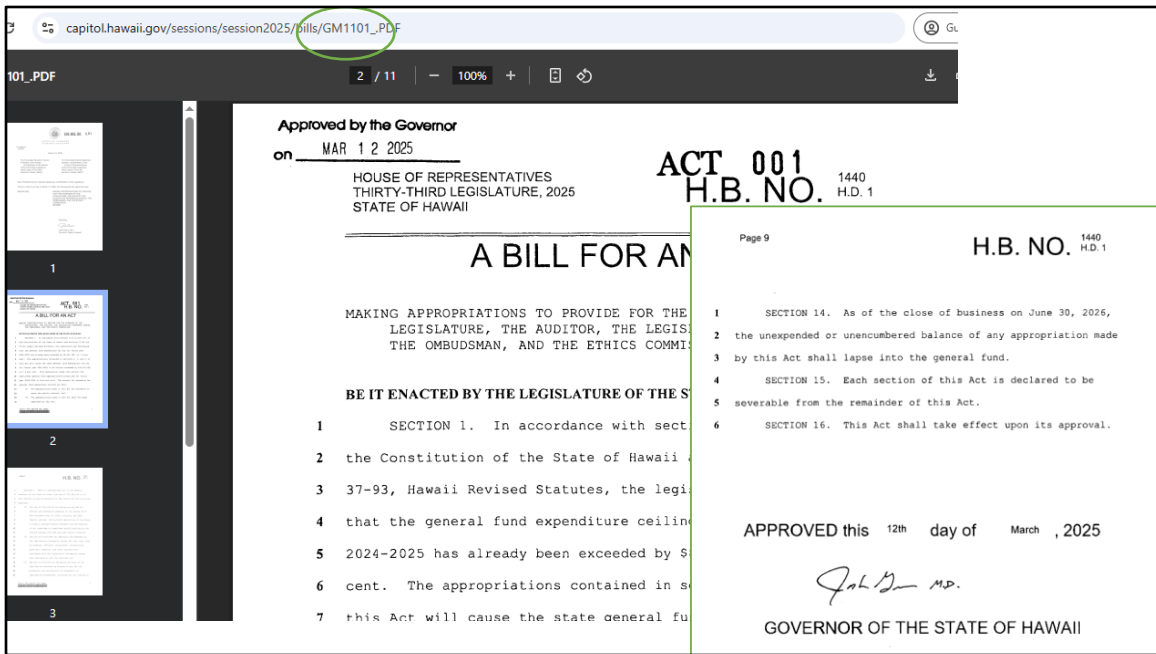
This is to inform you that on March 12, 2025, the following bill was signed into law:

HB1440 HD1

MAKING APPROPRIATIONS TO PROVIDE
FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE
LEGISLATURE, THE AUDITOR, THE
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU, THE
OMBUDSMAN, AND THE ETHICS
COMMISSION.
ACT 001

(From previous page)
**Clicked
on the
Act #
to see
the GM**

Example of GM (Governor's Message) related to bill signed into law (became an act)



GM includes a copy of the bill will Act Number stamped (and with signature of the Governor, if it was signed into law – no signature if it became law without signature)

Finding the Law

Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH)



Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS)

*2026 laws will not be reflected until later this year

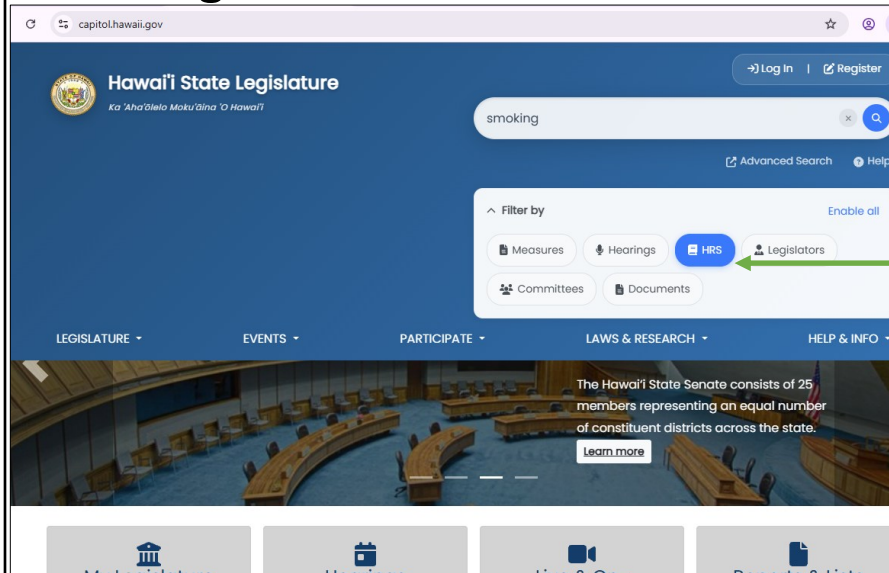
Each year, all the bills that become law are compiled in the Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH). If the new law adds to or amends any of the codified laws (the laws arranged in a systematic code) of the State of Hawaii, it will also be reflected in the Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), where the laws of a general and permanent nature go.

Not **all** new laws impact the HRS. For example, if the law is applicable only for a limited amount of time or contains temporary provisions (as is the case with legislative appropriations), it will be published in the Session Laws but **not** codified in the HRS.

Note that there are also rules published by the State departments governing **how** the new laws will be implemented – those are the Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR) but we won't get into that.

2026 HRS and SLH aren't updated until the second half of the year. Printed versions may not be available until the end of the year, taking into account formatting and printing times.

Finding the Law Online



capitol.hawaii.gov

↓
Can filter to HRS-specific results on the initial search page, or from within the search results screen (next slide)

To find the laws, head over to the Legislature's website and click in the search box on the top of the home page. There is an option to filter your search by HRS (Hawaii Revised Statutes) to find permanent laws. New for 2026 – if you want to find Session Laws you'll need to do a document search – which we will talk about shortly.

Finding the Law Online – HRS Search

The screenshot shows the Hawaii State Legislature website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the logo and the text "Hawai'i State Legislature" and "Ka 'Aha OIeolo Moku OIeina 'O Hawai'i". Below this are menu items: "LEGISLATURE", "EVENTS", "PARTICIPATE", "LAWS & RESEARCH", and "HELP & INFO". A search bar contains the text "smoking". Below the search bar are filter buttons: "All Content", "Measures", "Hearings", "Committees", "Documents", "HRS", and "Legislators". The "HRS" button is circled in green. On the left side, there is a "Filters" section with a "Search Precision" slider set to "Moderate" and a "Volume" section. The main content area is titled "Hawaii Revised Statutes" and shows "Search Query: 'smoking'" and "Found 54 results in HRS". Below this, there is a list of results, with the first one being "HRS Chapter 712" from "Volume 14". The text of the result includes: "... 1251 Possession in a motor vehicle; prima facie evidence 712-1252 Knowledge of character, nature, or quantity of substance, or age of transferee; prima facie evidence 712-1253 Penalties under other laws 712-1254 Bar to prosecution 712-1255 Conditional discharge 712-1256 Expunging of court records 712-1257 Prohibited cigarette sales of less than twenty 712-1258 Tobacco products and electronic smoking devices; persons under twenty-one years of age 712-1260 Repealed Part V. Nuisance Abatement 712-1270".

Use the filters under the Primary Search box to filter by HRS

The primary search feature of capitol.hawaii.gov allows you to limit your search by content type: like HRS. There are also filter options which vary depending on the content type.

The screenshot shows the Hawai'i State Legislature website. The header includes the logo and the text "Hawai'i State Legislature" and "ka Aha'ōlelo Moku'āiāoli 'o Hawai'i". Below the header are navigation tabs: "LEGISLATURE", "EVENTS", "PARTICIPATE", and "LAWS & RESEARCH".

The main content area is divided into a sidebar and a main panel. The sidebar has a "Volume" filter with a list of volumes 1 through 14, each with a count in parentheses. Below that is a "Chapter" filter with a list of chapters 28 and 89, each with a count. The main panel displays search results. The first result is partially visible, showing "1251 Possession in a motor vehicle; prima facie evidence 712-1252 Knowledge of character, nature, or quantity of substance, or age of transferee; prima facie evidence 712-1253 Penalties under other laws 712-1254 Bar to prosecution 712-1255 Conditional discharge 712-1256 Expunging of court records 712-1257 Prohibited cigarette sales of less than twenty 712-1258 Tobacco products and electronic [smoking] devices; persons under twenty-one years of age 712-1260 Repealed Part V. Nuisance Abatement 712-1270 Places used to commit offenses against public health and morals or other offenses, a nuisance 712-1270.3 Citizen's rights 712-1270.5 Injunctions against persons 712-1271 Suit to abate 712-1271.5 Standard of proof 712-1271.6 Protective order 712-1272 ...". Below this is a "File: HRS_0712-.htm" entry with "Last Modified: 1/5/2026" and a "View Full Text" button.

The second result is "2. HRS Chapter 712 Section 1258" with "Volume 14" on the right. It includes a sub-header "Chapter 712 Section 1258" and a paragraph of text starting with "... S.D. 1 (2015). Act 206, Session Laws 2018, amended this section to: (1) require retailers of tobacco products or electronic [smoking] devices to check the identification of tobacco or electronic [smoking] device purchasers who reasonably appear to be under twenty-seven years of age; (2) prohibit a person under the age of twenty-one from possessing any tobacco product or electronic [smoking] device; and (3) establish procedures for the forfeiture and destruction of tobacco products and electronic [smoking] devices that are illegally purchased or possessed by a person under the age of twenty-one. The legislature found that the use of electronic [smoking] devices, also known as e-cigarettes, is proliferating and that the electronic [smoking] device industry is rapidly expanding. According to a ...". Below this is a "File: HRS_0712-1258.htm" entry with "Last Modified: 1/5/2026" and a "View Full Text" button.

The third result is "3. HRS Chapter 712 Section 1257" with "Volume 14" on the right. It includes a sub-header "Chapter 712 Section 1257" and a paragraph of text starting with "... more than \$2,500 for the first offense. Any subsequent offense shall subject the person to a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$5,000. Any person who knowingly violates subsection (1) shall be guilty of a class C felony. (L 1996, c 53, §1; am L 2000, c 201, §2) Cross References Sale of tobacco or electronic [smoking] device to minors, see §709-908. COMMENTARY ON §712-1257 Act 53, Session Laws 1996, added this ...". This result is circled in green. Below this is a "File: HRS_0712-1257.htm" entry with "Last Modified: 1/5/2026" and a "View Full Text" button.

In this example, looking for HRS Chapter 712, Section 1257 – scrolling down the page of results to find it, then click on the result – in this case item number 3. Click on either the words of the HRS section that are shown or click the “View Full Text” button

capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol14_Ch0701-0853/HRS0712/HRS_0712-1257.htm

§712-1257 Prohibited cigarette sales of less than twenty. (1) It shall be unlawful to sell single cigarettes or packs of cigarettes containing less than twenty cigarettes. It further shall be unlawful to sell cigarettes other than in sealed packages originating with the manufacturer and bearing the health warning required by law.

(2) As used in this section, "to sell" includes: to solicit and receive an order for; to have, or keep, or offer, or expose for sale; to deliver for value or in any other way than purely gratuitously; to peddle; to keep with intent to sell; and to traffic in.

(3) "Sale" includes every act of selling as defined in [subsection (2)].

(4) Any person who violates subsection (1), shall be fined not more than \$2,500 for the first offense. Any subsequent offense shall subject the person to a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$5,000. Any person who knowingly violates subsection (1) shall be guilty of a class C felony. [L 1996, c 53, §1; am L 2000, c 201, §2]

Cross References

Sale of tobacco or electronic smoking device to minors, see §709-908.

COMMENTARY ON §712-1257

Act 53, Session Laws 1996, added this section to prohibit the sale of single cigarettes or cigarettes in packs of less than twenty and in other than in sealed packages originating with the manufacturer and bearing the required health warning. The legislature found that the sale of cigarettes in amounts of less than twenty was specifically aimed at minors. The legislature sought to prevent the distribution of cigarettes to minors through quantity and price control. House Standing Committee Report No. 924-96, Senate Standing Committee Report No. 2013.

Act 201, Session Laws 2000, amended this section by increasing to a class C felony the penalty for anyone who knowingly sells single cigarettes or packs of cigarettes containing less than twenty cigarettes. Conference Committee Report No. 108.

[Previous](#) [Vol14_Ch0701-0853](#) [Next](#)

Clicking on the result on the previous screen goes to HRS page

You can click Previous or Next to navigate within the HRS

And here is HRS section 712-1257 (Prohibited cigarette sales....) as a page on the HRS section of the capitol.hawaii.gov website.

capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol14_Ch0701-0853/HRS0712/HRS_0712-1257.htm

smoking 0/1

§712-1257 Prohibited cigarette sales of less than twenty. (1) It shall be unlawful to sell single cigarettes or packs of cigarettes containing less than twenty cigarettes. It further shall be unlawful to sell cigarettes other than in sealed packages originating with the manufacturer and bearing the health warning required by law.

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Cross References

Sale of tobacco or electronic **smoking** device to minors, see §709-908.

COMMENTARY ON §712-1257

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[Previous](#) [Vol14_Ch0701-0853](#) [Next](#)

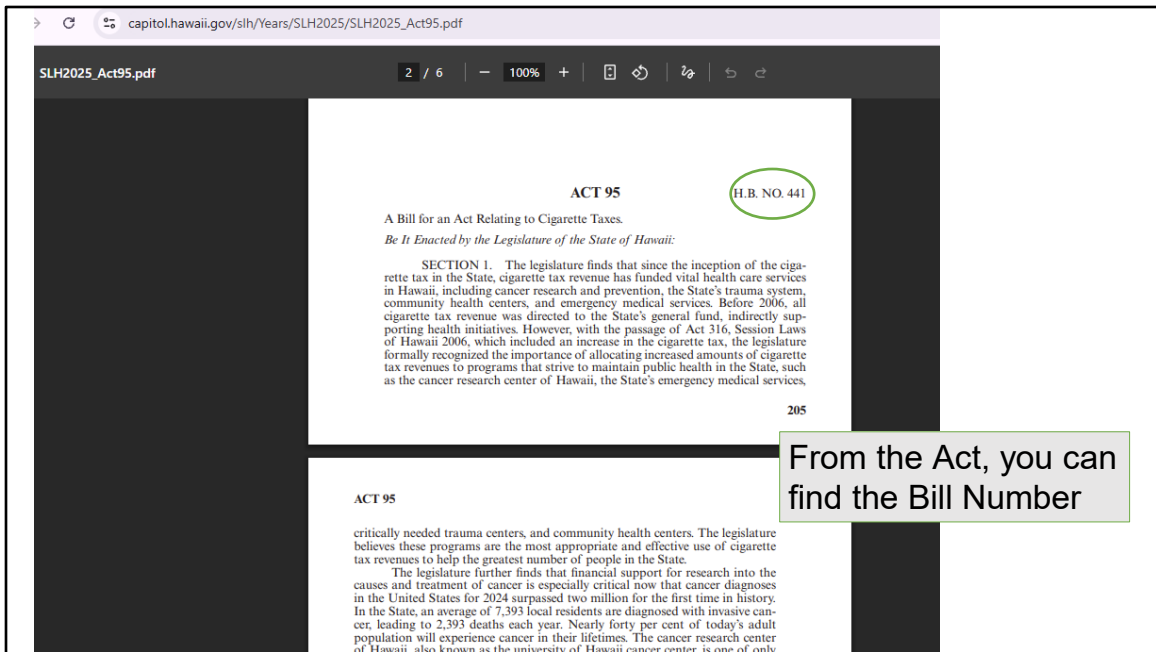
HRS section 712-1257 (Prohibited cigarette sales....) as a page on the capitol.hawaii.gov website . Use control+f (or command+f) on the keyboard to search for specific words – they are highlighted if they are recognized on the page.

Finding the Law Online – Session Laws

The screenshot shows a legislative website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for LEGISLATURE, EVENTS, PARTICIPATE, LAWS & RESEARCH, and HELP & INFO. Below this is a search bar containing the word "smoking". Under the search bar, there are several filter buttons: All Content, Measures, Hearings, Committees, Documents (highlighted with a green circle), HRS, and Legislators. On the left side, there is a search precision slider set to "Moderate" and a category filter menu. The category filter menu lists: Measures (1179), Testimony (874), Committee Reports (442), GIA Applications (97), and Session Laws (49) (highlighted with a green circle). The main content area is titled "Documents" and shows search results for "smoking". It indicates "Found 49 results in Documents" and "Page 1 of 2". The first result is "1. SLH2025_Act95.pdf" with a "2025" tag. The snippet for this result reads: "... additionally finds that a portion of the cigarette tax rev-enue currently allocated to the Hawaii cancer research special fund is specifically pledged towards revenue bonds sold to construct the cancer center in 2010, con-duct cancer research, and fund its operations. Due to successful public educa-tion, strong anti-[smoking] policies, and increased costs to cigarettes, the decline in [smoking] rates is a public health victory. However, paradoxically, this decline in [smoking] has resulted in a decrease of over fifty per cent in cigarette tax revenues to the Hawaii cancer research special fund. This decline jeopardizes the revenue stream ...". Below the snippet, it says "Category: Session Laws" and "Modified: 10/1/2025". There is a "View PDF" button at the bottom of the result.

Now let's use the same topic to search through the Session Laws. Selecting content type of "documents" and using the left side filter menu under Category as "session laws".

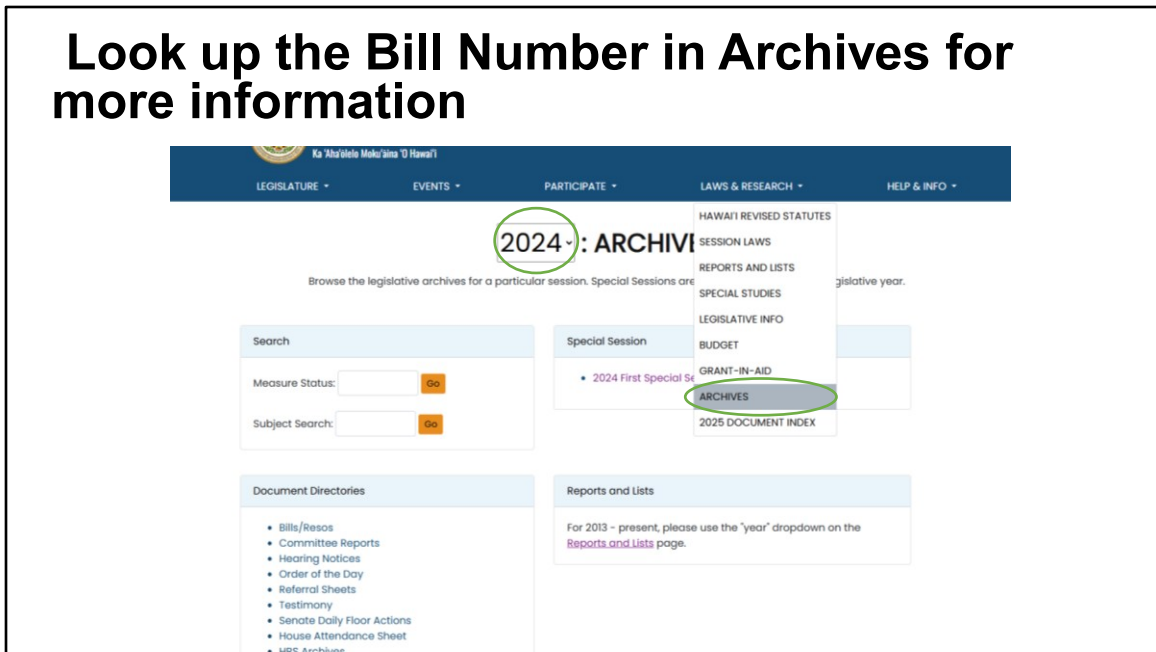
Clicking on the result #1, SLH2025 Act 95. (SLH = Session Laws of Hawaii)



From clicking on the primary search result screen on the previous slide – to go into the Session Laws of Hawaii for 2025 to the page for Act 95. The Act number and House Bill number from 2025 are displayed on the result screen.

This is helpful if you want to find a bill number with the specific year, then you can go search for past testimony, committee reports, drafts, etc.

Look up the Bill Number in Archives for more information



To find the Archives section of the capitol.hawaii.gov website: Click on the Laws & Research menu and then the Archives option is towards the bottom of that list of options.

The Archives page goes back to 1999, but the amount of information will vary across the years.

2013-to current will provide information most similar to what users can look up for the current year – testimony, committee reports, etc

If information is not available through the website, the State Archives has information for older bills.

<https://ags.hawaii.gov/archives/legislative-research/>

For testimony, see more information at

<https://ags.hawaii.gov/archives/legislative-research/bill-testimony/> to give you an idea of what information you might need to provide to request records from the State Archives.

Finding the Law Online Other Ways to Look

The image shows a screenshot of the Hawaii State Legislature website. The header includes the logo, the text "Hawai'i State Legislature", and the tagline "Ka Aha Ōiēlo Moku'āina 'O Hawai'i". There is a search bar and links for "Log In" and "Register". Below the header are navigation tabs: "LEGISLATURE", "EVENTS", "PARTICIPATE", "LAW & RESEARCH", and "HELP & INFO". The "LAW & RESEARCH" menu is open, showing options: "HAWAII REVISED STATUTES", "SESSION LAWS", "REPORTS AND LISTS", "SPECIAL STUDIES", "LEGISLATIVE INFO", "BUDGET", "GRANT-IN-AID", "ARCHIVES", and "2026 DOCUMENT INDEX".

Diagram illustrating navigation paths:

- capitol.hawaii.gov
- ↓
- LAW & RESEARCH
- ↓
- HAWAII REVISED STATUTES
- OR
- SESSION LAWS

Additional navigation options shown at the bottom of the page:

- My Legislature
- Hearings
- Live & On-Demand Video
- Reports & Lists

We've shown how you can access the HRS and Session Laws using the search box at the top of the homepage, but you can also access the HRS and Session laws from the "Reports and Lists" tab, which is our favorite tab. You can select either Hawaii Revised Statutes or Session Laws.....

Finding the Law Online – HRS Page

Volumes	Chapters
VOLUME 1	1-42F
VOLUME 2	46-115
VOLUME 3	121-200D
VOLUME 4	201-257
VOLUME 5	261-319
VOLUME 6	321-344
VOLUME 7	346-398A
VOLUME 8	401-429
VOLUME 9	431-430H
VOLUME 10	436-474
VOLUME 11	476-490
VOLUME 12	501-588
VOLUME 13	601-676
VOLUME 14	701-853

From the HRS page – you can go to the volume or the chapter if you know it. Or you can search by keyword by clicking on the Index. This will bring up a large PDF file, so you may need to give it a couple minutes to load. From the PDF you can do a control+f or a command+f search on your keyboard to search the index PDF for the keyword you are looking for. You may need to try different words in a search to find what you are looking for.

The screenshot shows the Hawaii State Legislature website. The main header includes the logo and navigation links: LEGISLATURE, EVENTS, PARTICIPATE, LAWS & RESEARCH, and HELP & INFO. The search bar is also visible. The main content area is titled "SESSION LAWS OF HAWAI'I" and contains a list of years from 1959 to 2025. A green arrow points to the year 2025. Below the list, there are links for "SLH 2025", "2025 Index and Effect of Acts", and "PDF of All 2025 Acts". A secondary view of the page is shown below, highlighting the "LAWS & RESEARCH" menu item.

Click on a Year from the Session Laws of Lawaii page to see all the Acts for that year. Remember, you can get to the Sessions Laws page under the Laws & Research menu.



Changing Gears

How you can use the
Interim

Changing gears: How you can use the Interim

Reassessing & Regrouping



- Debrief after Session



- Sketch out a gameplan



- Network

One of the first things you'll want to do after Session is to debrief. Based on your debriefing notes, you'll want to sketch out a gameplan for the interim and next session. Finally, if you've identified network opportunities, reach out and make connections.

Debrief

- What worked well?
- What didn't work so well?
- What could be done differently in the future?
- What do you wish you had known?
- Research you wish you had?
- What ideas did you have that for which you didn't have the time or resources to follow up during session?



In doing a review of the past session, here are some areas of focus:

- What worked? What didn't work?
- What could be done differently next year?
- What ideas did you have that you just didn't have the resources to follow through on?
- What challenges were you not equipped to counter?
- What research information do you wish you had?
- What advice would you give someone trying to do the same thing next session ?
- What do you know now that you wished you had known ?
- Did you identify any potential supporters?

Jot it all down

Review Testimony

LEGISLATURE | **EVENTS** | **PARTICIPATE** | **LAWS & RESEARCH** | **HELP & INFO**

LEGISLATURE | **EVENTS** | **PARTICIPATE** | **LAWS & RESEARCH** | **HELP & INFO**

SB1588 SD1 HD1 Submit testimony

All Versions of this Measure

- [SB1588_HDI](#)
- [SB1588_SD1](#)
- [SB1588](#)

Committee Reports

- [SB1588_SD1_SSCR69](#)
- [SB1588_SD1_SSCR692](#)
- [SB1588_HDI_HSCR1493](#)

Testimony

- [SB1588_TESTIMONY_EG_02-04-25](#)
- [SB1588_TESTIMONY_WAM_02-12-25](#)
- [SB1588_SD1_TESTIMONY_EEP_03-19-25](#)

Hearing Notices

- ERG** 2/04/25 3:02P [Agenda](#)
CR 09 & Videoconference [YouTube](#)
- WAM** 2/12/25 10:00A [Agenda](#)
CR 28 & Videoconference [YouTube](#)
- EPP** 3/19/25 9:20A [Agenda](#)
325 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE [YouTube](#)

Sort by Date | **Status Text**

Sort by Date	Status Text
3/21/2025	H Passed Second Reading as amended in HD 1 and referred to the committee(s) on FIN with Representative(s) Amato voting aye with reservations; Representative(s) Pernus voting no (1) and Representative(s) Cochran, Garrett, Kapela, Kitagawa, Ward excused (5).
3/21/2025	H Reported from EEP (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1493) as amended in HD 1, recommending passage on Second Reading and referral to FIN.



Sustainable Energy Hawai'i
sustainableenergyhawaii.org
info@sustainableenergyhawaii.org

February 3, 2025

SUPPORT for SB1588 - RELATING TO NUCLEAR ENERGY

Dear Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Chang, and Committee members,

I'm testifying on behalf of Sustainable Energy Hawai'i (SEH), a 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to improving the quality of life for Hawaii island residents. Our mission is to enable an economic, social, and environmental revival in Hawaii through a just transition to sustainable, 100% locally sourced renewable energy and the creation of a thriving clean hydrogen economy.

SEH supports SB1588, which "Establishes the Nuclear Energy Task Force within the Hawai'i State Energy Office. Requires reports to the Legislature."

Hawaii has an aggressive and much-needed goal to transition its energy system to one that is clean, renewable, and sustainable. This is critical not only to decarbonize but also for energy sovereignty. We have made good progress in deploying renewable energy solutions like solar, wind, and storage, and some progress with geothermal. However, a broader, more comprehensive approach that will provide a reliable, affordable, and secure energy future is needed, especially considering the power required to electrify the transportation sector. We cannot afford to leave options unexplored.



To: The Senate Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs (EIG)
From: Sherry Pollack, 350Hawaii.org
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025, 3:02pm

LATE

In strong opposition to SB1588

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Chang, and members of the EIG committee,

I am Co-Founder of the Hawaii chapter of 350.org, the largest international organization dedicated to fighting climate change. 350Hawaii.org is in strong opposition to SB1588 that establishes the Nuclear Energy Task Force within the Hawai'i State Energy Office.

This bill is not only a distraction from Hawaii achieving our clean energy goals, it could pose serious harms to our health and environment.

The following are just a few of the serious concerns we have regarding this measure:

Transporting Nuclear Fuel is a Hazard
As an isolated island chain, Hawaii faces unique and significant risks in transporting nuclear fuel over vast ocean

If you were following a bill that received testimony in support and opposition, you can scan through the testimony to find allies and don't forget to review past committee reports as well. You can also read testimony from people/groups on the opposite side to better understand their position and try to find some common ground. These are things you can do during the interim to better prepare for next session.

Review Hearing Recordings

Description:	Establishes the Nuclear Energy Task Force within the Hawaii State Energy Office. Requires reports to the Legislature. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)
Companion:	HB558
Package:	None
Current Referral:	EEP, FIN
Introducer(s):	WAKAI

Sort by Date	Status Text
3/21/2025	H Passed Second Reading as amended in HD 1 and referred to the committee(s) on FIN with Representative(s) Amato voting aye with reservations; Representative(s) Ferruso voting no (1) and Representative(s) Cochran, Garrett, Kapela, Kitagawa, Ward excused (5).
3/21/2025	H Reported from EEP (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 1493) as amended in HD 1, recommending passage on Second Reading and referral to FIN.
3/18/2025	H The committee on EEP recommend that the measure be PASSED, WITH AMENDMENTS. The votes were as follows: 3 Ayes: Representative(s) Lowen, Kataloa, Kusch; Ayes with reservations: none; 1 Noes: Representative(s) Ferruso; and 2 Excused: Representative(s) Quinlan, Ward.
3/14/2025	H Bill scheduled to be heard by EEP on Tuesday, 03-18-25 9:20AM in House conference room 325 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE.
2/28/2025	H Referred to EEP, FIN, referral sheet 17
2/27/2025	H Pass First Reading
2/19/2025	H Received from Senate (Sen. Com. No. 17) in amended form (SD 1).
	Report Adopted: Passed Third Reading, as amended (SD 1). Ayes, 20; Aye(s) with reservations: Senator(s) Fukunaga, Ihara,

Committee Reports	
SB1588_SD1_SSCR69_	
SB1588_SD1_SSCR692_	
SB1588_HD1_HSCR1493_	

Testimony	
SB1588_TESTIMONY_DIG_02-04-25_	
SB1588_SD1_TESTIMONY_WAM_02-12-25_	
SB1588_SD1_TESTIMONY_EEP_03-18-25_	

Hearing Notices	
EG	2/04/25 3:02P CR 09 & Videoconference Agenda
WAM	2/12/25 10:04A CR 211 & Videoconference Agenda
EEP	3/18/25 9:20A 325 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE Agenda

Review to see what testifiers said but also comments or questions made by legislators.

Look for items for which you might want to follow up.

Any advocates with whom you could collaborate?

It may be beneficial to watch the discussion on the bill in Committee. You can use the YouTube link under the "Hearing Notices." That'll take you to the hearing.

LEGISLATURE - EVENTS - PARTICIPATE - LAWS & RESEARCH - HELP & INFO -

SBI588 SD1 HD1

Subscribe Submit Testimony All Versions of this Measure

Measure Title: REL
Report Title: HSE
Description: Est
En
(HE
Companion: HB
Package: No
Current Referral: EEP
Introducer(s): WA

Full Video Stream - EIG 2/04/25 3:02P

[View hearing notice](#) [Watch this video on YouTube](#)

EIG-HRE, EIG DEFER, EIG, EIG Public Hearings 02-04-2025
Hawaii State Senate

THE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND INTERGOVERNMENT AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION
WILL BEGIN SHORTLY...

HAWAII STATE CAPITOL

Watch on YouTube

Measure Status

Date	Chamber	Status Text		
12/8/2025	D	Carried over to 2026 Regular Session.	EIG	2/04/25 3:02P CR 016 & Videoconference Agenda
			WAM	2/12/25 10:01A CR 016 & Videoconference Agenda

Click Watch on YouTube for more information about the video, including bookmark/ time-stamps

Look for “watch on Youtube” buttons to see more information about the hearings from the YouTube page – like timestamps by bill

EIG-HRE, EIG DEFER, EIG, EIG Public Hearings 02-04-2025

Hawai'i State Senate
4.18K subscribers

0 | Share | Download | Save

171 views Streamed live on Feb 4, 2025

- 00:00 - Start
- 00:35 - SB993
- 02:49 - DM EIG-HRE 3:00PM
- 03:30 - EIG 3:02PM
- 04:02 - SB73
- 04:32 - SB100
- 05:46 - SB202
- 11:42 - SB1234
- 13:47 - SB1336
- 17:42 - SB1588
- 29:28 - DM EIG 3:02PM
- 35:52 - DM EIG DEFER 3:00PM
- 40:43 - DM EIG 3:01PM

Hearing Notices:
EIG-HRE 3:00pm
<https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessio...>

EIG DEFER 3:00pm
<https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessio...>

EIG 3:01pm
<https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessio...>

EIG 3:02pm
<https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessio...>

Chapters [View all](#)

For committee videos, check description block under the video for the start times for discussion on each bill on the agenda, which is very helpful. There are different teams that process videos so this information may vary in terms of when time stamps are made available.



Or move the cursor of the video to the portion of the recording when your bill is being discussed. You can also check the hearing agenda to see where in the agenda your bill is, to know to look at the beginning or ending of the hearing video, for example.

Sketching Out a Gameplan



Planning for interim and next session

- Debrief → Gameplan
 - What did you learn, where do you want to focus next?
 - Research
 - Review past similar legislation, who supported and who opposed
 - What can you learn or what do you need to learn more about?
 - Sketch out your “to do” timeline
 - Identify action items
 - Who to talk to, and when?
 - Keep your issue moving forward during interim
 - Keep your stakeholders informed
-
- Take what you learned and sketch a gameplan to continue your advocacy into the interim and plan for next session.
 - Set up meetings during the interim with the legislators who sit on relevant committees in order to communicate your ideas to them. Provide them with as much information as possible to help support your position and ask for feedback and advice.
 - Conduct research on your issue.
 - Look through similar legislation that was introduced in the past. Read through the testimony and find out who supported and opposed the issue.
 - Map out a tentative timeline showing key “to do” items – and schedule a follow-up review to evaluate how things are progressing.
 - What new ideas can you bring into the fold?
 - And remember, use PAR during the interim – the computers, convenient workspace, informational handouts and helpful staff are all here to assist you.

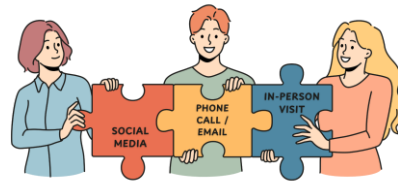


Networking with others will help you better manage and focus your advocacy efforts:

- Identify key advocacy groups or individuals who you would like to involve in your efforts
- Identify key legislators that can help
- Find allies to help divide up the research and outreach tasks.
- Use social media to get the word out

Working With Legislators

- Stay Connected



- Request a bill



Staying connected with your legislators during the interim to shore up support for an issue or discuss any concern is a good idea. Building relationships goes a long way towards helping you become a successful advocate.

If you have an idea for a bill, you can work with your legislators during the interim to get a bill drafted.

Working With Legislators 2



- Meeting with your legislators
 - Prepare! Consider making an outline for yourself
 - Consider a leave behind document - any supplemental info you want to share?
 - Leave time for legislators to ask questions
 - Be prepared to follow up on questions if requested
 - Ask for advice

Meet with legislators during the interim. They are more available to meet in the interim as they don't have to deal with the rigors of session. Election years are a bit trickier though as your legislator may not be running for reelection or they want to wait until after the elections to meet with you. Meeting with them in person is a good way to build a relationship. And don't forget the importance of staff.

Here's a few tips when meeting with legislators in-person:

- Prepare an outline of what you want to talk about. Bring along any supplemental information to help make your case.
- **Be on time, courteous and positive.**

- Be clear and factual when discussing your issue or ideas with them
- Know what you want and expect
- Be ready to answer questions or provide more information if it's requested. If you don't know, say so, and agree to follow up
- Don't spend the whole time talking, allow enough time for the legislator to provide feedback

If you were supporting a bill that didn't make it, you can talk to your legislators and ask for their advice. You can talk to your legislators about anything that the state has influence over, including district issues and policy issues.

Working With Legislators 3

Communicating via email, phone, or letter



- Identify yourself as a constituent, explain why you are contacting them
- Be specific – concern, problem, opportunity?
- Keep the communication short and simple
- Are you asking for a specific action? Requesting bill introduction? Suggestions of others to talk to?
- Following up – will you follow up? When and how?

Here are some tips when communicating with your legislators via email or letter:

- Identify yourself as a constituent
- Explain why you are writing (concern, problem or opportunity), be specific
- Keep your communication short and simple
- Be respectful and thank the legislator and their staff. Legislative office hear complaints all the time, let them know they're appreciated.
- If writing a letter write legibly and include your contact information so they can get back to you.

When making a call:

- Let the staffer know why you're calling.
- In leaving a message or voicemail, speak slowly and clearly.

- Repeat your name and phone number at the end of the call and let them know you'd appreciate a follow-up.
- If you want to speak to the Senator or Representative directly, make the ask

Requesting a Bill

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2025
STATE OF HAWAII

H.B. NO. 133

A BILL FOR AN ACT


RELATING TO SURFING.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that surfing is of
2 significant cultural, social, and economic value to the people
3 of Hawaii, as well as the many visitors who travel to the State
4 for surfing. In recognition of surfing as a part of the State's
5 history and for the sport's long-standing historical and
6 cultural roots in Hawaii, surfing was sanctioned by the
7 department of education and approved by the board of education
8 as a high school sport in 2016. However, only one of five local
9 athletic leagues have sponsored surfing. The lack of
10 interscholastic surfing programs limits opportunities for
11 inspired students to pursue competitive surfing.

12 The legislature further finds that surfing is a significant
13 economic driver for the State. In Hawaii, the birthplace of
14 modern surfing, surfing has grown into an important industry,
15 bringing in tourists from all over the world. Hawaii is also
16 known for hosting prestigious surf contests that attract
17 numerous competitors and spectators interested in viewing the

2024-3122 HB HMSC-1



- Summing up your proposal
- When should I approach legislators about my bill idea?
- Who should I approach?
- Following up?

Requesting a bill be introduced can be a fundamental part of your advocacy efforts. Your ideas (and the ideas of others) are key in helping to shape state law. While it may seem like a daunting task, it is not as difficult as it may seem. You do not have to be an attorney to get a bill introduced. You just have to have a firm understanding of the problem you are trying to address or opportunity you are trying to create

Summing Up Your Proposal

Before you take your idea to a legislator, there are a couple of things to consider:

- What policy are you trying to create or change?
- What result(s) do you hope to achieve with your bill?
- Does your proposal need to be a law or is it an issue/opportunity that can be addressed via a memo to a state agency or achieved via the rulemaking process?
- Consider jurisdictional issues: Is this a state, federal, or county issue? If it is not a state issue, consider contacting your congressional delegation or your county council members
- Is there legislation from another state that could serve as a model?

When should I talk legislators about my bill idea?

Late May through October is a good time to approach legislators about your bill ideas as things tend to be a bit slower at the Capitol during this time. Getting your proposal in early allows adequate time for a legislator to meet with you to discuss your idea and send your proposal off for drafting. The drafting agencies are busy fulfilling drafting requests in December and early January, so you will want to stay ahead of the rush. While bills can be drafted at any time, they can only be introduced during the bill introduction cutoff period which usually starts on opening day (which is always the 3rd Wednesday in January) and ends a week later.

Who to approach?

- Your own Senator or Representative
- Chairs/members of committees
- Legislators who have supported the issue (or a similar issue) in the past

Following up

If you are working with a legislator on a bill draft, make sure you follow up with them. Work with them on the draft and ask for their commitment to introduce the legislation. Even if they commit to introducing the bill, Thank them during the bill introduction period as a subtle way to remind them of their commitment.



Proposal for X
a new bill / policy / issue, a request for support

Background	A brief statement about yourself, your organization (if applicable), what your organization does.
The Issue / Problem / Opportunity	Summarize the issue for which you are seeking support or assistance; legislation from other states, share data. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consider using bullet points• Your summary should be quick and easy to read
The Solution	Identify solutions and how your legislator can assist (for example, introducing new legislation or providing resources and support.)
The Ask	Be specific about what you are asking the legislator to do. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduce or take a position on a bill?• Provide feedback on your idea?• Suggestions of other people to contact and work with?• Sign a letter of support?
Stakeholders / Supporters	Include a list of supporters.
Contact Info	Include your contact information so that the legislator or legislative staff can contact you if they have questions or to follow up.

Talking with Legislators

- Short & concise
- Highlight important points
- Be clear: what are you asking
- Bullet points
- Consider having a sheet to leave behind



This is an example of a template you could consider using as a way to summarize your proposal for a new bill and something you can “leave behind” with legislators to help them remember your goals. You can create your own leave behind that’s specific to your issues – including the type of information you want to include on such a document.

QR code goes to: <https://irb.hawaii.gov/par/overview-of-the-legislative-process/idea-to-introduction-the-birth-of-a-bill/>

One-page leave behind template is midway down the webpage under How to Approach a Legislator section

Important Dates

- Early October – Departments submit budget requests to DB&F for Review
- By Thanksgiving – Contact Legislators with bill ideas
- Sometime in December GIA Applications released
- Late December/Early January – Release of Session Calendar
- January 20th – Opening Day 2027 Session
- End of January – Likely Bill Introduction Cutoff Date

Here are some of the dates to be mindful of (outside of the election dates)

- Early October- Departments submit budget requests to Department of Budget & Finance for review
- Contact Legislators with any bill ideas by Thanksgiving – this will give them time to work with bill drafters so the bill would be ready to go by the start of session in January
- Sometime in December– GIA Applications released. Information on GIA's or Grant-in-Aids are available on the Legislature's website off the "Legislative Information" tab. Information may also be found on the "Recent Update box on the homepage of the Legislature's website.
- The Session calendar should be released sometime in the latter part of December or early January. As you know, the session calendar will list the deadlines.
- January 20th - the most important date to remember as that is the first day of the 2027 session.
- Bill introduction cutoff will probably come around the end of January.

New Biennium

- New Two-Year Legislative Session – All bills introduced in 2025 and 2026 died in 2026. All new bills introduced in 2027. (2027 introduced bills can carryover to 2028)
- New Two-Year Fiscal Budget 2027-2029 (2026 was a supplemental budget year)
- New Legislators – by PAR's count: 38 House seats have multiple names running in elections; 9 Senate seats

Finding the LRB and PAR websites

2025 Legislative Session

- 2025 Committees on Conference Procedures
- 2025 Committees on Conference Room Scheduling Procedures and Guidelines
- 2025 Committees on Conference Room Assignment Schedule
- 2025 Advise and Consent Process
- 2025 Committee Testimony Submittal Procedures
- 2025 Legislative Timetable
- 2025 Senate Committee Hearing and Conference Room Schedule

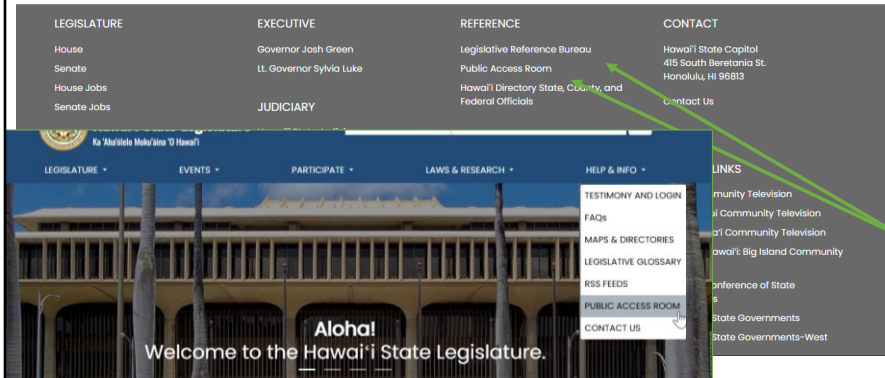
LRB Website

- lrb.hawaii.gov

PAR Website

- lrb.hawaii.gov/par
- Capitol.Hawaii.gov
> Help & Info >
Public Access
Room

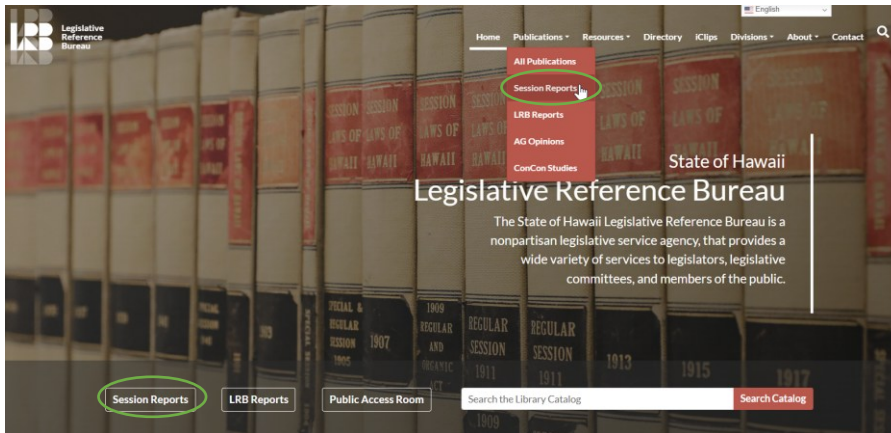
OR scroll down on
Legislature's website
until you reach the
bottom and click on
links



You can also get to both the Legislative Reference Bureau's website and the Public Access Room's website via the links on the bottom of the home page on the Legislature's website.

And, via the Help & Info menu, just select "Public Access Room."

Supplemental Info Relating to Bills



<https://lrb.hawaii.gov>
Session Reports

The Legislative Reference Bureau produces a “Supplemental Information Relating to Bills Passed” report that provides table of laws affected by the bills passed (but not necessarily enacted) during a particular session and is helpful for the current year before the SLH is published and posted. You’ll be able to find this report on the Legislative Reference Bureau’s website off the “Session Reports” tab.

This report is especially helpful if you’re trying to see the HRS sections affected by new Acts.

QR code goes to LRB (Legislative Reference Bureau) main webpage:
lrb.hawaii.gov

The screenshot shows the website for the Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB1) of Hawaii. The page is titled "Session Reports" and is for the year 2024. The navigation menu includes Home, Publications, Resources, Directory, iClips, Divisions, About, and Contact. The breadcrumb trail reads "LRB1 legislative Reference Bureau > Publications > Session Reports". The main content area lists several reports:

- Statistics: [Legislative Statistics as of July 10, 2024](#)
- Special Sessions: [Measures Acted Upon by the Senate First Special Session of 2024](#)
- Requests by the Legislature: [Requests by the Legislature to Agencies and Officials of the Federal, State & County Governments and of Quasi-Public & Private Agencies](#)
- Acts: [Bills Enacted by the Legislature Regular Session](#)
- All vetoes passed in 2024: [Bills Vetoed and Acts with Vetoed Items](#)
- Supplemental Information Relating to Bills Passed: [Supplemental Information](#) (circled in green)
- Bills Passed: [Bills Passed by the Legislature Regular Session](#)

You'll click on the "Supplemental Information" report.

**Preliminary Index
2024 Regular Session**

ABUSE	
Family or household member, <i>see DOMESTIC ABUSE</i>	
ACCOUNTANTS	
Service bids; state contracts; preference for Hawaii businesses.....	SB2536
ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES	
Building code; refrigerant use.....	SB2753 (Act 57)
Chief information officer; duties; salary	SB2516
Elections, <i>see ELECTIONS</i>	
Enterprise technology services	
mobile application development; Hawaii.gov site	SB2287 (Act 82)
multilingual accessibility standards; appropriation.....	SB2782
Exempt employees; information technology modernization.....	HB2069 (Act 19)
Maui wildfires; insurance claim payments; report; appropriation.....	SB3068
Mobile application development; Hawaii.gov site	SB2287 (Act 82)
Office of information practices; open meetings violations; lawsuits	HB1597
State building code; refrigerant use.....	SB2753 (Act 57)
Technology services consolidation working group; purpose; reports; sunset extended.....	SB2526
ACTIONS	
Abusive litigation.....	HB2657
Claims	
sexual offenses against adult victims; extension of limitation	SB2439
sexual offenses against minors; limitation of action	SB2601
Claims against the State	
judgments and settlement of claims.....	HB2340 (Act 48)
Maui wildfires victims; one ohana bank trust account.....	SB582 (Act 10)
Open meetings; lawsuit for violations.....	HB1597
ADVERTISING	
Coffee; package labeling; geographic origin percentage.....	HB2298

And this is what the report looks like. You'll see subject matter and the bills passed that relate to those areas.

The 2024 Supplemental info document has a date of late June 2024.

LAWS AFFECTED BY BILLS PASSED

*Thirty-Second State Legislature
2024 Regular Session*

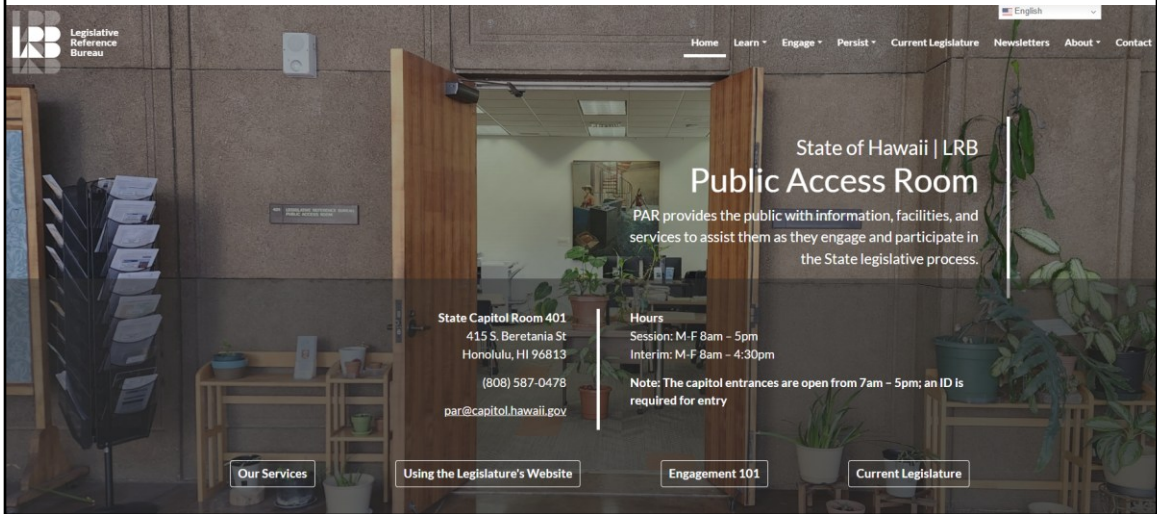
Key: *Am* = Amended *---* = Part or section
N = New number to be
R = Repealed assigned in
 HRS Supplement

A. SECTIONS OF THE HAWAII REVISED STATUTES (HRS) AFFECTED

<u>Section No.</u>	<u>Effect</u>	<u>Bill or Act No.</u>	<u>Section No.</u>	<u>Effect</u>	<u>Bill or Act No.</u>
Volume 1					
5- ____	N	HB1899 (Act 004) SB3312 (Act 085)	28-15	Am	SB2516 HB0982 (Act 059)
6E-11	Am	SB3154	30-1	Am	SB2958
6E-16	Am	SB2591	37-41.5	Am	SB0582
6E-43.5	Am	HB1529			(Act 010)
8- ____	N	HB1950 (Act 008) SB2841 (Act 024)	39B-2, 5	Am	HB1760 (Act 035)
8-19	Am	SB2657	Volume 2		
11- ____	N	HB2072 (Act 016) SB2240	46- ____ (2 secs)	N	HB2090 (Act 037)
11- ____ (2 secs)	N	SB2687	46- ____	N	SB3202
11-122	Am	HB1879 (Act 014)	46-4	Am	(Act 039) SB2919
11-158, 173.5	Am	HB0129 (Act 001)	46-15.1	Am	(Act 017) SB3202 (Act 039) SB1170 (Act 031)

You can also see what HRS sections were affected by the year's bills.

Irb.hawaii.gov/par



Our website (Irb.hawaii.gov/par) has a wealth of information. Looking at everything we have available on our website is a good way to spend some of your time during the interim.

Learning on the PAR Website

The screenshot shows the PAR website interface. The top navigation bar includes the Legislative Reference Bureau logo and links for Home, Learn, Engage, Persist, Current Legislature, Newsletters, About, and Contact. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column features two parts: 'Part One: Overview of the Hawaii State Legislature and the legislative process' and 'Part Two: Actions you can take to get involved'. Below these are sections for 'Do You Have an Idea for a Bill?' and 'What Does It Take to Change a Law in Hawaii?'. The right column is titled 'Legislative Links' and contains a list of links: 'Idea to Introduction: The Birth of a Bill', 'What Does it Take for a Bill to Become a Law in Hawaii?', 'A Bill's Journey', 'Types of Measures: Bills, Resolutions, Messages', 'Anatomy of a Bill', 'Resolutions', 'Resolution FAQs', 'Committees & the Public Hearing Process', 'The Budget Process', 'Floor Sessions & Order of the Day', and 'Conference Committees and Governor's Deadlines'. A QR code is located in the bottom right corner of the website content. To the right of the screenshot, a vertical flow diagram shows 'PAR's Website' with a green arrow pointing down to 'Learn tab', which has another green arrow pointing down to 'Overview of the Legislative Process'. A QR code is also shown below the text 'Overview of the Legislative Process'.

Some of the information on the learn tab can be very informative, even for people who have experience with the legislative process. And it provides a good foundation for people who are not familiar with the process. Don't forget to check out PAR's new Advocate's Guide – Part 1 is a 50-page overview and Part 2 is about 30-pages on Actions advocate's can take.

QR code points to: <https://lrb.hawaii.gov/par/overview-of-the-legislative-process/>

Legislative Reference Bureau

Home · Learn · Engage · Persist · Current Legislature · Newsletters · About · Contact

LRB - Public Access Room > Engagement 101

Engagement 101

Don't make the legislators do it alone – the public serves a vital role in the legislative process. Offer your views and perspectives to help the legislature make the best laws for the state of Hawaii.

Find Your Own Senator and Representative

Not sure what districts you're in or who represents you? The Legislature's website makes it easy for you to find your Senator and Representative.

Register for an Account on the Website

Make an account to submit testimony, sign up for hearing notifications or create a measure tracking list. You'll only have to do it once!

Sign Up for Hearing Notices

Make sure you don't miss a chance to offer testimony on bills that interest you. Sign up for hearing notices by

Submitting Testimony

Testimony provides an opportunity for citizens to influence policymakers. Read tips on testimony, how

Engage

Engagement 101

- Tips on Testimony
- Find and Track Bills at the Legislature
- At the Capitol
- Use Your Voice at the Legislature!
- Using the Legislature's Website

PAR's Website

↓

Engage tab

↓

Engagement 101

PAR makes handouts and short videos available on our Engagement 101 webpage if you want to learn more about registering for an account on the capitol.hawaii.gov website, as well as signing up for hearing notices, submitting testimony and more.

<https://lrb.hawaii.gov/par/engagement-101/>

PAR Newsletters

Legislative Reference Bureau

Home Learn Engage Persist Current Legislature **Newsletters** About

LRB - Public Access Room > Newsletters

Newsletters

If you'd like to sign up to receive our newsletter, you can [sign up on our newsletter registration page](#). To read issues prior to January 2026, please visit our [newsletter archive](#).

January 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Opening Day of SessionPAR's Advocate's Guide	Download PDF
April 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Upcoming public zoom workshopsConferenceFinding lists of bills - crossover & conference	Download PDF
June 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">June 2026 Using the Interim public Zoom WorkshopGovernor's DeadlinesLegislative Statistics	Download PDF

PAR's Website



Newsletters



Our *Newsletters* page is also extremely useful. We discuss a lot of different things, and it's information that can be time-applicable.

QR code goes to Newsletter sign up page: <http://eepurl.com/hAKElr>

Learning on the PAR Website 2

The screenshot shows the PAR website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for Home, Learn, Engage, Persist, Current Legislature, Newsletters, and About. A dropdown menu is open under the 'Persist' tab, listing 'Advocacy Tip: Navigating at the Capitol', 'How to Communicate with Legislators' (highlighted with a red circle), 'Using the Interim', and 'How to Enjoy a Public Hearing'. Below the navigation, the page title is 'How to Communicate with Legislators'. The main content area includes a section titled 'Tips for Success' with the sub-heading 'Your Government, Your Voice'. To the right of this text is an image of a person's hand raised in a public hearing. Below the image is a list of links: 'Persist', 'Advocacy Tip: Navigating at the Capitol', 'How to Communicate with Legislators', 'Using the Interim', and 'How to Enjoy a Public Hearing'. To the right of the screenshot, a vertical flow diagram shows 'PAR's Website' with a green arrow pointing down to 'Persist tab', which has another green arrow pointing down to 'How to Communicate with Legislators'.

The persist page on our website has some helpful information on Interim prep. And tips on communicating with legislators. The trick is do figure out what works best for the legislators you want to talk to.

<https://lrb.hawaii.gov/par/how-to-communicate-with-legislators/>

Finding the LRB Library from <http://lrb.hawaii.gov>



LRB's website → Divisions tab → Library



The Legislative Reference Bureau Library is a good resource for conducting research. They also have a friendly staff. You can get to their website off the main LRB website- lrb.hawaii.gov, clicking on the “*Divisions*” heading, then selecting “*Library*” from the dropdown menu. This will take you to the LRB library’s website:

QR code goes to: <https://lrb.hawaii.gov/>

lrb.hawaii.gov/library/

English

Home Publications Resources Directory iClips Divisions About Contact

LRB Legislative Reference Bureau > Legislative Reference Bureau Library

Legislative Reference Bureau Library

The Library serves the Legislature and the legislative service agencies by providing essential information resources and information services which support the legislative process.

Reference and Research Support

Our research librarians provide reference and research assistance in the Library, by telephone, or email. Questions cover a wide range of subjects, but typically involve state policy issues, complex legislative history, or federal laws and regulations. A workstation linked to the Internet, our online catalog, [CARD](#), and to other libraries and databases is located in the reference area. Library staff will assist patrons in using them for research.


Research Librarians use electronic information services and databases to obtain state and federal bills, statutes and rules, as well as current articles and reports specific to a legislator's research needs. Library staff combines over forty years' experience in online database searching.

[Search the Library Catalog](#) [Legislative History Guide](#)

Hours & Location

Monday – Friday
 Session: 7:45 – 5:00p
 Interim: 7:45 – 4:30p

Jessica Caniglia, Head Research Librarian
 State Capitol, Rm 005
 Phone: (808) 587-0690
lrb@capitol.hawaii.gov



Finding the LRB Library

The Print Collection

Library contact info and hours are listed on the right side.

QR code goes to: <https://lrb.hawaii.gov/library/>

The LRB Library produces a clipping of online news for members of the Legislative community. iClips provides links to articles of interest selected from local and national online news. Updated daily Monday – Friday by 10am.

June 16, 2026

Local News

- [‘Amazing Trajectory’: Hawaii Film Industry Rebounding With More Movies In The Islands](#) | HNN
- [BOE To Review Failed Bills On DOE Leadership And School Facilities](#) | SA
- [State Seeks To Fine 3 Big Island Men For Illegal Take Of 4,000 ‘Opihi From Marine Reserve](#) | MNOW
- [Hawaii OCP Opposes Federal Act Saying It Would Limit State From Enacting Stronger Privacy Protection Laws](#) | MNOW
- [Estate Fraud Suspect Pleads Not Guilty To New Charges](#) | HNN
- [Hawaii Economy Remains Resilient Despite Inflation](#) | SA
- [How Hawaiian Airlines Is Coping With Rising Energy Costs](#) | HPR
- [Hawaii’s Imperiled False Killer Whales Are Going Hungry](#) | LHC

Use the form below to subscribe to the daily iClips newsletter

Email Address

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Archives

- [June 16, 2026](#)
- [June 15, 2026](#)
- [June 12, 2026](#)
- [June 10, 2026](#)
- [June 9, 2026](#)
- [June 8, 2026](#)

LRB Librarians produce iClips every working day – a list of articles and links specific to Hawaii that can be viewed from the LRB Library iClips webpage or subscribe to receive the list by email. The links point to the news source, so you may run into paywalls where access to the article is only available if you have a subscription to the news source.

Website: <https://lrb.hawaii.gov/iclips/>

Enter your email on this webpage if you want to receive these lists by email.

You can follow all the rules and still not get the result you hoped for. Effort doesn't always equal reward; sometimes, the outcome isn't up to you.



Finally, it's important to remember that sometimes things don't work out the way we want to, because the outcome isn't always up to us. We have to keep working!



[@HawaiiPublicAccessRoom](#)



[PublicAccessRoom](#)



[PublicAccessRoom](#)

Aside from our website, we have a YouTube channel where we archive many of our past presentations and quick how-to videos. We also have a Facebook page and an Instagram account.

<https://www.youtube.com/@hawaiipublicaccessroom>

<https://www.facebook.com/PublicAccessRoom/>

<https://www.instagram.com/PublicAccessRoom>



Questions?

State Capitol, Room 401
415 S. Beretania St.
Honolulu, HI 96813

INTERIM HOURS:
Monday – Friday
8:00AM – 4:30PM

Public Access Room (PAR)
808-587-0478
par@capitol.hawaii.gov
<https://lrb.hawaii.gov/par>



Thank you for joining us for this “Using the Interim” presentation. In this presentation, we’ll talk about some of the things that happen during the interim and how you can best use this time to prepare for next year’s session. The business of lawmaking is a year-round process, and the interim is an important part of that process.

Here’s our contact information. Please use us as a resource in the interim. Our interim hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This concludes the slide portion of the presentation. I’ll be happy to answer any questions that any of you may have.