



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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MINUTES

Legislative Committee Meeting

Location: Virtual via Zoom and 1010 Richards Street, Room 118

Date: March 31, 2026

Time: 11:50 a.m.

PRESENT: Charlotte Townsend Chairperson;, Anthony Akamine, Violet Horvath,
Committee members; Scott Castor, Bryan Mick, Kristine Pagano, Staff

ABSENT: Dayne Greene, Rosanna Daniel-Kanetake, Committee members

PUBLIC

PARTICIPANTS: Leelynn Brady

SIGN LANGUAGE

INTERPRETER: Jenny Blake

I. Chairperson Charlotte Townsend called the meeting to order at 11:52 a.m.

II. Committee members and staff introduced themselves.

III. Staff reported that no public testimonies were submitted.

IV. Bills and Resolutions

- A. [HR99/HCR107](#): URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO SUPPORT ACADEMIC FLEXIBILITY AND EQUITY FOR STUDENTS WITH CHRONIC AND AUTOIMMUNE ILLNESSES.

MOTION: SUPPORT (M/S Horvath/Akamine)

- B. [HR101/HCR109](#): URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA KOKUA PROGRAM AND DISABILITY SERVICES ACROSS THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM AND IDENTIFY AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT AND EXPANSION.

The Committee discussed it is unclear if this is intended to help or diminish the Kokua Program. Staff should submit testimony in support. Testimony to emphasize how important the Kokua Program has been and advocate for funding and capacity be expanded.

MOTION: SUPPORT (M/S Townsend/Horvath)

C. [HR146/HCR154](#): REQUESTING THE COUNTY OF HAWAI'I TO EXPAND THE HELE-ON SHARED RIDE PROGRAM TO SERVE THE ENTIRE ISLAND OF HAWAI'I, INCLUDING RURAL AND UNDERSERVED AREAS SUCH AS WEST HAWAI'I, NORTH KOHALA, SOUTH KOHALA, KA'Ū, AND PUNA.

MOTION: SUPPORT (M/S Akamine/Townsend)

The Committee approved all of the positions it took today by acclamation.

V. The meeting adjourned at 12:06 p.m.

NOTE: All votes were unanimous unless otherwise noted.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

BRYAN K. MICK