



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

1010 Richards Street, Rm. 118 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
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NOTICE OF MEETING

Disability and Communication Access Board

Legislative Committee Meeting

February 19, 2025

11:00 a.m.

AGENDA

The Disability and Communication Access Board will be meeting remotely using interactive conference technology. The public is welcome to participate as follows.

Public In-Person Meeting Location

Kamamalu Building
1010 Richards Street, Room 118
Honolulu, HI 96813

Participate Virtually via Zoom

Click on the link below or copy and paste it into your browser window:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81150156760> and enter Meeting ID: 811 5015 6760.

To join by phone

Dial 1 669 900 6833 and enter Meeting ID: 811 5015 6760

Public Testimony

Oral testimony - Testimony or comments presented by members of the public during Legislative Committee meetings shall be limited to one minute per agenda item. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, a reasonable amount of additional time shall be afforded to persons with a communication disability to present testimony or comments, if needed. Any person who needs additional time to present testimony or comments is encouraged to contact the DCAB office in advance of the meeting. This rule shall be placed at the beginning of all Legislative Committee meeting agendas.

Members of the public may present comment or testimony during Legislative Committee meetings on each agenda item. Public comment or testimony, if any, shall be presented on each agenda item before the Legislative Committee deliberates on the item. After all public comment or testimony is presented, the Legislative Committee shall deliberate on the agenda item without further comment or testimony from the public unless further public comment or testimony is requested by the Legislative Committee.

Written Testimony - To ensure the public as well as Committee members are able to review testimony prior to the meeting, we request written testimony be submitted 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting date and time.

- By email to: dcab@doh.hawaii.gov
- By U.S. Postal Mail:
Kirby Shaw, Disability and Communication Access Board, 1010 Richards Street,
Room 118, Honolulu, HI 96813
- By facsimile to: (808) 586-8129

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
Review Remote Meeting Procedures
 - This meeting is being recorded.
 - A quorum of Committee members is required to be visible on screen.
 - Raise hand to speak unless called upon.
 - Identify yourself before speaking.
- II. Roll Call/Introductions
- III. Statement from Public and Written Testimonies Submitted
- IV. Bills and Resolutions
 - A. Non-Discrimination

[SB1496](#) – Relating to Civil Rights. Establishes that it is an unlawful discriminatory practice for places of public accommodation to deny a person with a disability full and equal enjoyment of information related to their services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations using information and communication technology intended for use by the general public as applicants, participants, customers, clients, or visitors. Establishes exceptions.

[HB325 HD1](#) – Relating to Medical Cannabis. Prohibits an employer from discriminating against a person in hiring, termination, or any term or condition of employment based on the person's status as a medical cannabis registry card holder, under certain conditions. Authorizes an employer to use a fit-for-duty test for medical cannabis qualifying patients in potentially dangerous occupations. Exempts certain occupations. Effective July 1, 3000. (HD1)

[HB1096 HD1 \(SB1415\)](#) – Relating to Tenant Selection. Repeals the tenant selection preferences for disabled veterans and the spouses of deceased veterans in the State Low-Income Housing Program. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)
 - B. Communication Access

[SB1371](#) – Relating to the Universal Service Program. Clarifies that the Public Utilities Commission under the Universal Service Program may provide, and may use funds from the Universal Service Fund to provide, free telecommunications access to certain individuals with a print disability.

C. Service and Other Animals

D. Building Code, Design, and Facility Access

[SB160](#) – Relating to Mental Health. Requires the Department of Health to construct a mental health facility for inmates or detainees with mental health needs in the custody of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Appropriates moneys.

[SB230](#) – Relating to Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure. Requires that if parking is to be included in any new state building construction, the design provide that at least twenty-five per cent of parking stalls be electric vehicle charger-ready. Requires the Hawai'i State Energy Office, in consultation with the Department of Accounting and General Services and the Department of Transportation, to conduct a survey and identify certain high-priority state facilities. Establishes a goal of the State to retrofit state facilities to be electric vehicle charger-ready. Requires a report to the Legislature. Appropriates funds.

[SB415](#) – Relating to Trail Accessibility. Establishes the Accessible Wilderness and State Parks Trails Program within the Division of State Parks of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Establishes the Accessible Wilderness and State Parks Trails Program Special Fund. Requires reports to the Legislature. Appropriates funds.

[SB718](#) – Relating to Equity. Requires all places of public accommodation and public entity constructions constructed after 7/31/2026, to provide universal changing accommodations that are equally accessible regardless of gender.

[HB868](#) – Relating to Disabilities. Requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources to evaluate its facilities for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and compile a list of non-compliant facilities. Requires report to the Legislature.

E. Community Based Services and Employment

[SB32](#) – Relating to the Psychological Interjurisdictional Compact. Adopts the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact to regulate the practice of telepsychology and temporary in-person, face-to-face practice of psychology by psychologists across state boundaries in the performance of their psychological practice. Requires the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to adopt rules to implement and administer the Compact.

[SB34](#) – Relating to Mental Health. Requires the Department of Education to identify an absence due to the mental health of a student as an excused

absence. Defines the term "excused absence". Exempts an absence due to the mental health of a student from the enforcement of penalties relating to compulsory attendance at school. Limits the number of excused absences that may be taken by a student due to mental health reasons.

[SB37](#) - Relating to Mental Health. Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, requires all public and private schools that serve students in grades 6 through 12 and issue student identification cards to have information on mental health and suicide prevention hotlines printed on the student identification cards. Establishes exceptions and penalties.

[SB64](#) – Relating to Education. Beginning with the 2027-2028 school year, requires each public school in the State, including charter schools, to employ, or retain under contract, at least 1 mental health professional for every 250 students enrolled, subject to certain conditions. Requires the Department of Education to submit a progress report to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2026. Appropriates moneys for the Department of Education to contract for mental health professionals and to establish an unspecified number of fulltime equivalent mental health professional positions within the Department of Education. Declares that the general fund expenditure ceiling is exceeded.

[SB87](#) – Relating to Mental Health at the University of Hawaii. Appropriates funds to the University of Hawai'i at Manoa to establish three additional permanent mental health practitioner positions within the Division of Student Success' Counseling and Student Development Center.

[SB298](#) – Relating to Human Services. Appropriates funds to increase funding for Medicaid in-home services, conditioned on the Department of Human Services obtaining maximum federal matching funds and pursuing all other funding sources.

[SB322](#) – Relating to Medicaid. Appropriates funds to the Department of Human Services to achieve the full funding, including estimated payment increases, of Medicaid home- and community-based services.

[SB421 SD1](#) – Relating to Literacy. Requires the Department of Education to administer a general dyslexia screening to all students in kindergarten through grade three. Requires the Department of Education to continue to administer the general English language arts universal screening for students in kindergarten through grade nine. Requires the Department of Education to collaborate with teacher training programs to ensure prospective candidates are trained on literacy instruction, including evidence-based intervention, to support all students. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

[SB450](#) – Relating to Autism. Appropriates funds to increase the funding for applied behavioral analysis services for persons with autism. Requires the Department of Human Services to obtain maximum federal matching funds and pursue all other funding sources. Appropriates funds.

[SB648](#) – Relating to Department of Health. Requires the Developmental Disabilities Division of the Department of Health to amend its eligibility criteria for the home and community-based services Medicaid waiver to include individuals having an intellectual or a developmental disability and a comorbid mental illness. Appropriates funds.

[SB720](#) – Relating to Workers' Compensation. Requires the independent medical examination and permanent impairment rating examination of an injured employee under the Workers' Compensation Law to be conducted by a qualified physician selected by the mutual agreement of the parties and paid for by the employer. In absence of a mutual agreement, requires the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations to appoint a duly qualified impartial physician to be paid by the employer.

[SB1001](#) – Relating to Education. Requires the Department of Education to implement dyslexia sensitive universal screenings and evidence-based interventions, offer professional development on structured literacy and evidenced-based interventions, and support pre-teacher programs in training candidates in structured literary instruction.

[SB1389](#) – Relating to Therapy Services. Expands the scopes of practice for occupational therapists, physical therapists, and speech pathologists to allow those professionals working for or contracted by the Department of Education to diagnose medical conditions that can be treated with their respective services.

[SB1392](#) – Relating to Education. Requires the Department of Education to implement dyslexia-sensitive universal screenings, provide evidence-based interventions, and offer professional development on dyslexia and structured literacy.

[HB11](#) – Relating to Healthcare. Eliminates the certificate of need requirement for all health care facilities and health care services except for nursing homes, hospices, intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities, and ambulance service providers.

[HB13](#) – Relating to Workers' Compensation. Establishes notice requirements for employers under Hawai'i's Workers' Compensation Law. Requires employers who deny the compensability of an employee's injury to submit a written report supporting the denial to the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations within a specified period. Requires employers to furnish to the injured employee up to \$10,000 for medical care, services, and supplies for the period immediately following the injury and so long as reasonably needed or until the employer files a written report with the Director denying the compensability of the injury, whichever is earlier. Clarifies that failure to give an employer notice of an employee's injury does not bar a claim for compensation if any person having authority in the interest of the employer had knowledge of the injury.

[HB115](#) – Relating to Driving Under the Influence. Requires defendants convicted of causing the death or disability of a parent or legal guardian of a

minor child by the operation of a vehicle while under the influence of an intoxicant to make restitution in the form of financial support to each child of the victim.

[HB185](#) – Relating to Care Homes. Prohibits the licensing of an adult residential care home, expanded adult residential care home, or developmental disabilities domiciliary home that is financed, managed, operated, supervised, directed, or owned in whole or in part by a person convicted of a gambling offense.

[HB551](#) ([SB1060](#)) - Related to Care Homes. Increases the state supplemental payment ceilings for type I adult residential care homes, licensed developmental disabilities domiciliary homes, community care foster family homes, certified adult foster homes, and type II adult residential care homes.

[HB557 HD1](#) – Relating to Telehealth. Amends the definition of "interactive telecommunications system" for purposes of reimbursement for services provided through telehealth. Requires health care providers to append a modifier to any claim for telehealth services using two-way, real-time, audio-only communications technology. Requires the Insurance Commissioner to report to the Legislature on reimbursements claimed in the previous year for certain telehealth services. Repeals the sunset date of Act 107, SLH 2023. (HD1)

[HB629 HD1](#) – Relating to Therapy Services. Expands the scopes of practice for occupational therapists, physical therapists, and speech pathologists employed by or contracted with the Department of Education to diagnose students with a medical condition in an educational setting and treat the students. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

[HB687](#) ([SB963](#))– Relating to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. For the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, requires the Department of Human Services to: (1) prorate or exclude certain income from household members who are ineligible for the Program; (2) establish a standardized medical expense deduction option for elderly or disabled household members; (3) establish a pre-release Program application form for individuals who are incarcerated and scheduled for release; and (4) report to the Legislature. Specifies that, for purposes of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, the federal restriction of providing Program benefits to certain individuals does not apply in Hawaii.

[HB695](#) – Relating to Paid Family Leave. By 1/1/2027, requires the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to establish a family and medical leave insurance program and begin collecting payroll contributions to finance payment of benefits. By 1/1/2028, requires the Department to start receiving claims and paying benefits under the program. Specifies eligibility requirements and employee protections under the program.

[HB725](#) – Relating to Medicaid. Appropriates funds to increase the funding of certain Medicaid home and community-based services, including adult day

programs and residential services offered in community care foster family homes and expanded adult residential care homes.

[HB1131 HD1](#) – Relating to an Intensive Mobile Team Pilot Program for Houseless Individuals Suffering from Serious Brain Disorders. Establish and appropriate funds for a pilot program in the Department of Health to provide intensive mobile treatment-type services to chronically houseless individuals suffering from serious brain disorders like schizophrenia and schizoaffective disorder. Effective 7/1/3000 (HD1).

F. Transportation and Mobility

[SB1492](#) – Relating to Mobility Management. Appropriates funds to the Department of Transportation to implement the recommendations of the Task Force on Mobility Management, established pursuant to Act 214, SLH 2013, in consultation with the Aging and Disability Resource Center of the Executive Office on Aging and other stakeholder groups.

[HB59](#) – Relating to Disabled Veterans. Exempts qualifying disabled veterans from county vehicle registration fees, highway beautification fees, and vehicle weight taxes.

[HB288](#) – Relating to School Bus Services. Authorizes the Department of Education to use alternative vehicles for student transportation under certain conditions and appropriates funds for the purchase of alternative vehicles and individuals to obtain CDL licensure. Allows Department schools to initiate staggered start times. Appropriates funds.

[HB469](#) – Relating to Parking for Disabled Persons. Requires the Disability and Communication Access Board to issue a disability travel placard to an applicant who has a valid removeable windshield placard and provides proof of travel. Effective 7/1/2027.

[HB517](#) – Relating to Restoring Respect and Dignity to America's only Royal Palace in the Nation. Prohibits parking of motor vehicles on the grounds of Iolani Palace. Requires DAGS to remove the blacktop, parking area, and paid parking adjacent to Iolani Palace. Requires DLNR to develop and maintain a pedestrian area adjacent to Iolani Palace. Requires DAGS and DLNR to report on cost analysis.

[HB657 HD1](#) – Relating to Disabled Veterans. Exempts disabled veterans from the State's vehicle weight tax and repeals the exemption for disabled veterans from the State's annual vehicle registration fee. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

[HB733 HD1](#) - Relating to Electric Vehicle Parking. Removes the exemption that allowed owners of multiple parking facilities within the State to designate and electrify fewer parking spaces than required in one or more of the properties if the requirement for the total number of aggregate spaces on all of their owned properties was met. Authorizes the counties to adopt

ordinances to regulate electric vehicle charging systems for places of public accommodation with fewer than one hundred parking spaces. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

[HB862 \(SB1199\)](#) – Relating to Transportation Services. Authorizes the use of motorcoaches, small buses, and vans for school bus services if certain conditions are met.

[HB1127 \(SB1446\)](#) – Relating to Parking for Disabled Persons. Authorizes each county to enact ordinances to enforce the design and construction requirements for the provision of accessible parking spaces, including the establishment of penalties for failure to comply with the ordinances.

[HB1471](#) – Relating to Transportation. Requires and appropriates funds for the Department of Transportation to install traffic actuated signals, including leading pedestrian intervals and accessible pedestrian signals and detectors. Imposes an additional fee of \$5 for a certificate of registration for motor vehicles, to be deposited into the Safe Routes to School Program Special Fund.

[HB1252](#) – Relating to the State Capitol. Requires DAGS and DPS, in consultation with the legislature and other entities, to plan and implement security improvements at the state capitol. Requires DAGS to remove all parking meters from the capitol parking facility and reallocate parking in the capitol district. Appropriates funds.

G. Emergency Management

[SB239 SD1](#) – Relating to Disaster Preparedness. Requires certain state buildings, including public school buildings, for which construction is anticipated to commence on or after 7/1/2026 to be designed to withstand category five hurricanes and be used as shelters in the event of an emergency. (SD1)

[HB358 HD1](#) – Relating to Disaster Preparedness. Requires all public buildings, including public school buildings, constructed after January 1, 2026, to be designed to withstand category five hurricanes and be used as shelters in the event of an emergency. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

[HB1060 \(SB1379 SD1\)](#) – Relating to Emergency Preparedness. Establishes the Community Readiness Centers Program to be implemented and administered by the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency. Establishes the Community Readiness Centers Special Fund to fund the Community Readiness Centers Program. Renames the Environmental Response, Energy, and Food Security Tax to the Environmental Response, Energy, Food Security, and Resilience Tax and directs a portion of the tax into the Community Readiness Centers Special Fund. Effective 7/1/2025.

H. Administration

[SB1255 SD1](#) - Relating to Government Records. Amends the Uniform Information Practices Act to require each contract to perform a government function to expressly require the contractor to retain records in accordance with the retention schedule of the agency and provide the agency with access to all records subject to the Uniform Information Practices Act; define "government function" and "trade secret"; clarify that "government record" includes information that is created, received, maintained, or used by a private person in performance of a government function contract; and prohibit agencies from denying a request for access to records of a contractor used in the performance of a government function on the basis of trade secret or other proprietary information. Effective 1/1/2491. (SD1)

[SB1422 SD1](#) – Relating to Non-General Funds of the Department of Health. Repeals the requirement that a portion of the fees collected for certified copies of certain certificates issued by the Department of Health be deposited to the credit of the general fund. Repeals the Birth Defects Special Fund. Requires a portion of fees collected for marriage licenses to be deposited into the Vital Statistic Improvement Special Fund. (SD1)

[HB642](#) – Relating to Administrative Rules. Requires all state agencies adopting, amending, or repealing a rule to make the full text of the rules of the agency available on the website of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor in a digitally accessible and searchable format.

I. Other

[HB636 HD1](#) – Relating to Capital Improvement. Establishes a school capital improvement project modernization initiative in the School Facilities Authority to create a planning database for school facilities. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

- Support Requested by Representative Trish La Chica

V. Open Forum: Public comment on issues not on the agenda for consideration for the Board's agenda at the next meeting.

VI. Next Meeting

If you have a disability and require an auxiliary aid or service or other accommodation to participate in the meeting, please contact Scott Castor at (808) 586-8121 or email, dcab@doh.hawaii.gov. Requests made as early as possible will allow adequate time to fulfill your request.

Upon request, this notice is available in alternate formats.

The agenda and meeting materials for this meeting are also available for inspection at DCAB's office located at 1010 Richards Street, Room 118, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 and on DCAB's website at: <https://health.hawaii.gov/dcab/dcab-agendas-and-minutes/>.