

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1937

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 05 2019

RE: H.B. No. 629  
H.D. 2  
S.D. 2

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirtieth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2019  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Judiciary and Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 629, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MEDICAL RELEASE,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to create a medical release program within the Department of Public Safety for certain ill, disabled, or impaired inmates who pose a low risk to public safety.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Department of Public Safety, Hawaii Paroling Authority, Community Alliance on Prisons, Hawai'i Health and Harm Reduction Center, Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii, and O'ahu County Democrats Legislative Priorities Committee. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the City and County of Honolulu Department of the Prosecuting Attorney.

Your Committees find that the United States federal prison system and many states grant some kind of medical or compassionate release. Compassionate release provides physicians and other medical professionals an opportunity to use their unique expertise and knowledge of prognosis, geriatrics, cognitive and functional decline, and palliative medicine to ensure that medical criteria



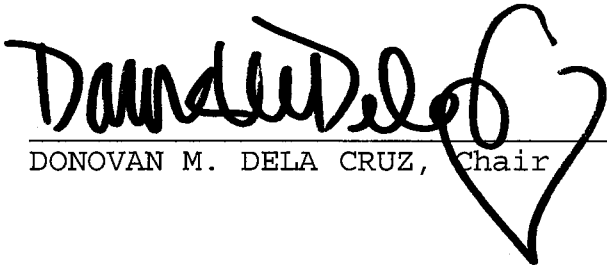
for compassionate release are evidence-based. With this medical information, criminal justice professionals can better determine the degree of risk an inmate poses to public safety and whether or not the inmate should be granted medical release.

Your Committees further find that a medical release program would facilitate the humane reunion of incarcerated individuals who pose little to no risk to society with their 'ohana and community while reducing the various costs associated with prison overcrowding for the State, taxpayers, and other inmates.

Your Committees have amended this measure by making it effective on March 1, 2020.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Judiciary and Ways and Means that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 629, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 629, H.D. 2, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Judiciary and  
Ways and Means,

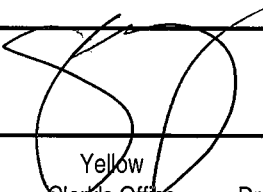
  
DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair

  
KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate  
Thirtieth Legislature  
State of Hawai'i


**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Judiciary**  
**JDC**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 629 HD2 SD1	PSM, JDC / WAM	4/13/19		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310		
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn (VC)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike	✓			
KIM, Donna Mercado	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	5	0	0	0
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted				
<input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
				
<b>Distribution:</b>				
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency	Goldenrod Committee File Copy	

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate  
Thirtieth Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Ways and Means**  
**WAM**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 629 HD2 SD1	PSM, JDC/WAM	4/3/19		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (VC)	X			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani				X
HARIMOTO, Breene				X
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	X			
KAHELE, Kaiali'i				X
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.	X			
RIVIERE, Gil	X			
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.	X			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
<b>TOTAL</b>	10			3
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution:     Original     Yellow     Pink     Goldenrod				
File with Committee Report     Clerk's Office     Drafting Agency     Committee File Copy				

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