

2026 Legislative Session

(Second half of the current Legislature's biennial session)

Bills from 2025 that may be carried over

HB468 HD1 RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

Summary: Requires the Civil Rights Commission to receive and investigate complaints related to acts of discrimination committed by transportation network company drivers against riders with service animals and report the results of its investigation to the Department of Transportation, which shall issue penalties to transportation network companies. Relating to transportation

Commission Position in 2025: Support

HB615 RELATING TO HEALTH CARE

Summary: Expands the protections established under Act 2, SLH 2023, to include gender-affirming health care services. Clarifies jurisdiction under the Uniform Child-Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act for cases involving children who obtain gender-affirming health care services.

Commission Position in 2025: Support

HB620 HD1 SD1 RELATING TO EDUCATION

Summary: Establishes state policy to promote braille literacy for eligible blind students. Requires the individualized education programs and section 504 plans of eligible blind students to include the assessment and evaluation of eligible blind students' reading and writing abilities, instruction of braille, and provision of braille instructional materials under certain circumstances. Requires the Department of Education to establish a Braille Literacy Resource Center. Appropriates funds.

Commission Position in 2025: Support

HB728 PROPOSING A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF HAWAII TO PROTECT THE RIGHT TO REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM

Summary: Amends the Hawai'i State Constitution to prohibit the State from denying or interfering with an individual's reproductive freedom, including the right to choose to obtain an abortion and to obtain or use contraceptives.

Commission Position in 2025: Support

HB831 RELATING TO ANTITRUST

Summary: Prohibits the use of algorithmic price-setting in Hawai'i's rental market. Requires the Department of the Attorney General to develop and undertake a public education program regarding the prohibition.

Commission Position in 2025: Support

SB44 RELATING TO HOUSING DISCRIMINATION

Summary: Authorizes the counties to prohibit discrimination against a renter based on the renter's source of income. Relating to housing discrimination.

Commission Position in 2025: Support

SB59 RELATING TO ALGORITHMIC DISCRIMINATION

Summary: Prohibits users of algorithmic decision-making from utilizing algorithmic eligibility determinations in a discriminatory manner. Requires users of algorithmic decision-making to send corresponding notices to individuals whose personal information is used. Requires users of algorithmic decision-making to submit annual reports to the Department of the Attorney General. Provides means of civil enforcement.

Commission Position in 2025: Support

SB1496 RELATING TO CIVIL RIGHTS

Summary: Makes it an unlawful discriminatory practice for places of public accommodation to deny a person with a disability full and equal enjoyment of, or information related to, their goods, 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. Clarifies that a facility is considered a place of public accommodation regardless of whether its presence in the State is physical or digital.

Commission Position in 2025: Comments/support intent, **potential rulemaking**

SB1061 SD1 RELATING TO DIGITAL EQUITY

Summary: Establishes and appropriates funds for a digital navigator pilot program to offer technical assistance with computers and electronic devices to residents.

Commission Position in 2025: Support

SB1493 SD1 RELATING TO SERVICE ANIMALS

Summary: Requires sellers or providers of emotional support animals to provide written notice to the buyers or recipients that the animal does not have the special training required to qualify as a service animal; the animal is not entitled to the rights and privileges accorded by law to a service animal; and knowingly misrepresenting as a service animal any animal that does not meet the statutory requirements of a service animal is a violation of law. Requires sellers or providers of certificates or identification tags for emotional support animals to provide written notice to the buyers or recipients that the item does not entitle an emotional support animal to the rights and privileges accorded by law to a service animal and knowingly misrepresenting as a service animal any animal that does not meet the statutory requirements of a service animal is a violation of law. Establishes penalties.

Commission Position in 2025: Comments/support intent

Bills that were deferred:

SB1660 SD1 RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT

Summary: Requires employers in the hospitality industry to implement anti-harassment measures, provide training, and equip certain workers with panic buttons. Prohibits retaliation against a hospitality worker who files a complaint, uses the provided panic button, or participates in an investigation or proceeding related to a harassment complaint. Requires the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to adopt rules, including rules determining penalties and establishing procedures for handling complaints. Requires all hospitality employers to comply no later than 1/1/2026.

Commission Position in 2025: Comments/support intent

SB55 SD1 RELATING TO ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Summary: Beginning 1/1/2027, requires all state agencies to make the full text of their rules available on the website of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor in a digitally accessible and searchable format that meets or exceeds certain federal standards.

Commission Position in 2025: Support

HB22 RELATING TO COLLABORATION WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Summary: Allows state and county law enforcement agencies to collaborate with the federal government for immigration purposes in only limited, specific circumstances.

Commission Position in 2025: Support

HB457 HD1 RELATING TO CIVIL RIGHTS PROTECTIONS

Summary: Requires state and local law enforcement agencies to notify an individual of their rights when in law enforcement agency custody before any interview with United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement on certain matters regarding immigration violations

Commission Position in 2025: Support

HB1096 HD1 RELATING TO TENANT SELECTION

Summary: Repeals the tenant selection preferences for disabled veterans and the spouses of deceased veterans in the State Low-Income Housing Program.

Commission Position in 2025: Support