

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
KE KE'ENA O KA MEIA
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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August 19, 2025

The Honorable Scott Nishimoto, Chair
and Members
Committee on International and Legal Affairs
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nishimoto and Councilmembers:

SUBJECT: Resolution 25-109

The Committee on International and Legal Affairs Agenda on Wednesday, August 20, 2025, will discuss Resolution 25-109 Performance Audit of the City's Resource Management and Administration of the Crisis Outreach Response and Engagement Program and the Honolulu Emergency Services Department (HESD).

The posted Proposed CD1 to Resolution 25-109, among other things, provides the following amendments:

- In the fifth WHEREAS clause, replaces the existing language by stating that the Council has received ongoing testimony and community concerns regarding the effectiveness, leadership, staffing, and oversight of CORE, as well as the overall resource allocation and management practices within HESD
- In the sixth WHEREAS clause, replaces the existing language by stating recent questions have arisen about whether HESD possesses the operational expertise and administrative capacity to effectively oversee a program like CORE that centers around behavioral health and social work competencies, particularly in light of staff attrition and management issues

MAYOR'S MESSAGE 130
ILA

The Honorable Scott Nishimoto, Chair
and Members
Committee on International and Legal Affairs
August 19, 2025
Page 2

With respect to both of these whereas clauses, the administration would benefit from understanding the referenced testimony, community concerns and questions so that HESD can have a clearer and fuller understanding of the context surrounding this resolution. Additionally, if there are concrete real issues that can be addressed sooner, we would do so.

We are committed to continuous improvement in providing city services and appreciate the strong working relationship and collaboration we have with the Honolulu City Council. Should you have any questions with respect to the foregoing, please contact Deputy Managing Director Krishna F. Jayaram at (808) 768-4811.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'M. Formby', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Michael D. Formby
Managing Director