

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 7, 2006

RE: H.B. No. 2398

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2006
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Water, Land, & Ocean Resources, to which was referred H.B. No. 2398 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII OCEAN AND COASTAL COUNCIL,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to protect Hawaii's ocean and coastal resources by statutorily establishing a Hawaii Ocean and Coastal Council (Council).

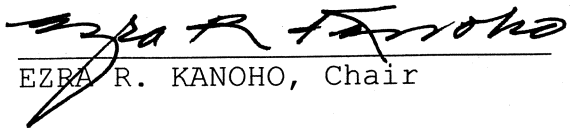
The Department of Land and Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT), Department of Health, Department of Transportation, University of Hawaii, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Department of Planning of the County of Maui, Tourism Liaison of DBEDT, and the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs testified in support of this bill.

Your Committee finds that in 2005, the Governor, through Executive Order No. 2005-01, established the Council. The Council was directed to gather information and provide advice and recommendations on direction and planning for addressing Hawaii's ocean and coastal concerns. The Council, however, is scheduled to be terminated by the end of the Regular Session of 2006. This bill would make the Council a permanent body.



As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water, Land, & Ocean Resources that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2398 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Water, Land, &
Ocean Resources,


EZRA R. KANOHO, Chair



