

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb. 15

, 2006

RE: S.B. No. 3175

S.D. 1

Honorable Robert Bunda
President of the Senate
Twenty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2006
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs and Energy, Environment, and International Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 3175 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AN ENVIRONMENTAL COURT,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish environmental courts within the circuit court to handle complaints, administrative appeals, and other judicial proceedings of an environmental nature.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by the Nature Conservancy of Hawaii. The Judiciary submitted testimony in opposition to this measure.

Your Committees find that environmental disputes are currently dealt with in a variety of courts. This organizational structure inadvertently promotes inconsistent application of a wide variety of environmental laws. The establishment of environmental courts within the circuit court system will promote and protect Hawaii's natural environment through consistent and uniform application of environmental laws.

Your Committees amended this measure to make technical changes and to change the effective date.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs and Energy,

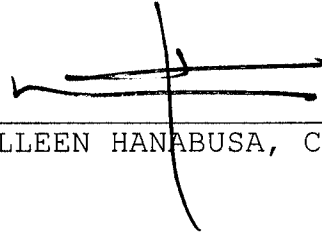


Environment, and International Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 3175, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 3175, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committees on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs and Energy, Environment, and International Affairs,



J. KALANI ENGLISH, Chair




COLLEEN HANABUSA, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Third Legislature
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes of the
Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs
(Bills and Resolutions)

Measure:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
SB 3175	JHW/EIA, WAM	2/10/06
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____		
The Recommendation is to:		
<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	Ayes	Ayes(WR)
HANABUSA, Colleen (C)	✓	
HEE, Clayton (VC)		
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	✓	
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	✓	
IHARA, Jr., Les	✓	
WHALEN, Paul		✓
TOTAL	4	1
Recommendation:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted		
Chair's or Designee's Signature:		
		
Distribution:		
Original	Yellow	Pink
File with Committee Report	Clerk's Office	Drafting Agency
		Goldenrod
		Committee File Copy

*Do not list more than one measure per Record of Votes.

