

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

3207

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 31 2006

RE: S.C.R. No. 184
S.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Energy, Environment, and International Affairs, to which was referred S.C.R. No. 184 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO INCLUDE THE USE OF BIOREMEDIATION METHODS TO PREVENT AND MITIGATE POLLUTION IN ITS BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND PROGRAMS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Health to include the use of bioremediation methods to prevent and mitigate water pollution in its best management practices and programs.

The Hawaii Crop Improvement Association and the Partners in Development Foundation submitted testimony in support of this measure. The Department of Health submitted testimony in opposition.

According to the Hawaii Crop Improvement Association, "The vast majority of bioremediation applications use naturally occurring microorganisms to identify and filter manufacturing waste before it is introduced into the environment or to clean up existing pollution problems." The Department of Health expressed its concern that "the use of bioremediation has not been properly addressed by other agencies having responsibility over flood control, debris maintenance and use of biological agents."



Your Committee finds that the use of bioremediation methods will reduce the State's dependence on conventional methods, such as incineration and waste dumpsites, and will reduce the introduction of chemical agents into the environment.

Upon further consideration, your Committee amended this measure by narrowing the application of bioremediation methods to instances where it will not substantially impede water flow.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy, Environment, and International Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 184, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 184, S.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Energy,
Environment, and International
Affairs,



J. KALANI ENGLISH, Chair



