

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

3233

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 28 2008

RE: S.C.R. No. 95

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2008  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Water and Land, to which was referred  
S.C.R. No. 95 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING A STUDY ON  
ESTABLISHING A HAWAII STATE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to request that the  
Legislative Reference Bureau conduct a study on establishing a  
geological survey as a state agency.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by one  
interested individual. The Legislative Reference Bureau submitted  
comments regarding this measure.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii faces a wide range of  
geological issues, including coastal erosion, limited ground and  
surface water, rock falls and landslides, earthquakes, volcanic  
eruptions, depleted rock aggregate resources, and geothermal  
energy. Currently, Hawaii's activities related to these  
geological issues are spread among a variety of state and county  
agencies, such as the Department of Land and Natural Resources'  
Commission on Water Resource Management and Office of Conservation  
and Coastal Lands, the Department of Health, and the various  
county water supply departments. These state and county agencies  
serve specific purposes for their respective agencies, potentially  
leaving gaps in efforts to collect and analyze geologic data on  
issues of importance to the State such as: geologic hazards,  
including but not limited to earthquakes, coastal erosion and  
flooding, flash flooding, rock falls, landslides, soil erosion,

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and volcanism; and geologic resources, including but not limited to groundwater, watersheds, rock quarrying, sand and gravel mining, geothermal energy, reef management, wetland and dune management, and beach and shoreline management.

Your Committee further finds that Hawaii is one of only two states that have never received federal funds to perform geological studies. Your Committee believes that a Hawaii state geological survey could compete for such federal funds and provide a broader range of geological information.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water and Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 95 and recommends that it be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Water and Land,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CLAYTON HEE, Chair



The Senate  
 Twenty-Fourth Legislature  
 State of Hawaii

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Water and Land**  
**WTL**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SCR 95</b>	Committee Referral: <b>WTL, WAM</b>	Date: <b>3/24/08</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
HEE, Clayton (C)	/			
KOKUBUN, Russell S. (VC)	/			
FUKUNAGA, Carol				/
TOKUDA, Jill N.				/
WHALEN, Paul	/			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>			<b>2</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align: center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">Russell S. Kobl</div>				
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\*Only one measure per Record of Votes