

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1098

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 27 2015

RE: H.B. No. 1478
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2015
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committees on Water and Land and Energy and Environment,
to which was referred H.B. No. 1478, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS HUMPBACK
WHALE NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish the
Hawaiian Islands humpback whale national marine sanctuary program
to coordinate and fulfill the State's duties in co-managing the
Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Office of
Planning; Conservation Council for Hawaii; Hawaii Green Growth;
Aqua Lung Pacific; Kuaaina Ulu Auamo; Hawaii Pacific University;
Aha Moku Advisory Council; Hanalei Watershed Hui; The Nature
Conservancy; Hawaii Fishermens Alliance for Conservation and
Tradition, Inc.; Maui Nui Marine Resource Council; Ocean Tourism
Coalition; and nine individuals. Your Committees received
comments on this measure from one individual.

Your Committees find that the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale
National Marine Sanctuary provides an essential habitat for
breeding, calving, and nursing activities of the endangered North
Pacific humpback whale. Since 1998, the Sanctuary has been
co-managed by Hawaii and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration of the United States Department of Commerce. The

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State and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration entered into a compact for co-management of the Sanctuary to improve interagency coordination and to enhance management of Hawaii's humpback whales and other marine resources. However, the State's role in co-managing the Sanctuary has yet to be codified under state law.

Your Committees further find that the Sanctuary has achieved many successes over the last fifteen years, including disentangling over twenty humpback whales, conducting cutting-edge research, and developing nationally-recognized education and outreach programs.

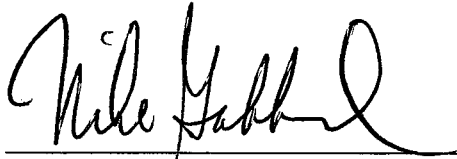
Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the State co-manages the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, which is created by federal law, through the sanctuary program and clarifying the State's duties under the sanctuary program;
- (2) Clarifying references to federal Acts and the United States Code;
- (3) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2015; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Water and Land and Energy and Environment that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1478, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1478, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Water and Land
and Energy and Environment,



MIKE GABBARD, Chair




LAURA H. THIELEN, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Eighth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Water and Land
WTL

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 1478, HD1	WTL/ENE, WAM	03.20.15		
<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 type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311	<input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310		
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
THIELEN, Laura H. (C)	✓			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood (VC)	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les				✓
RIVIERE, Gil	✓			
RUDERMAN, Russell E.				✓
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.	✓			
SLOM, Sam	✓			
TOTAL	5			2
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
				
Distribution:				
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency	Goldenrod Committee File Copy	

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

