

Honolulu, Hawaii

February 16, 2018

RE: H.B. No. 2470
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2018
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and
Water & Land, to which was referred H.B. No. 2470 entitled:

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

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to protect the people and
environment of Hawaii by requiring state and county agencies with
regulatory jurisdiction over environmental protection matters to
adopt and maintain rules pertaining to environmental protection,
air quality, water supplies, water quality, and drinking water
that are as stringent as, or more stringent than, applicable
baseline federal standards in existence on or before January 1,
2017.

The Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the
Democratic Party of Hawaii, Board of Water Supply, League of Women
Voters of Hawaii, Surfrider Foundation O'ahu Chapter, Hawaii Peace
and Justice, Blue Planet Foundation, Sierra Club of Hawai'i, Cuddle
Party, Kokua Hawaii Foundation, and several individuals supported
this measure. The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc., Ponoholo
Ranch Limited, Maui County Farm Bureau, Hawaii Farm Bureau, and an
individual opposed this measure. The Department of Health
provided comments.

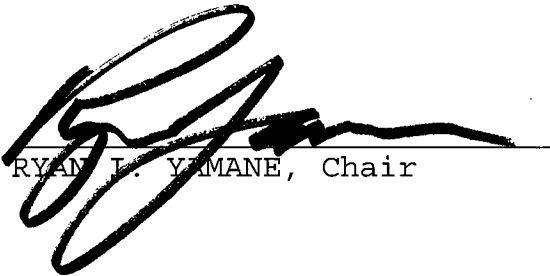


Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Providing that changes to the definition of "waters of the United States" made by the federal Clean Water Rule as published on June 29, 2015, and currently subject to judicial review and stay of enforcement shall not be applicable as baseline federal standards; and
- (2) Changing its effective date to January 28, 2045, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and Water & Land that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2470, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2470, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Energy &
Environmental Protection and
Water & Land,



RYAN L. YAMANE, Chair



CHRIS LEE, Chair



