

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 24 2017

RE: H.B. No. 588
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2017
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Higher Education and Water and Land, to which was referred H.B. No. 588, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR HE'EIA NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate funds to maintain the initial staff necessary to develop and manage He'eia estuary.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; University of Hawai'i System; Office of Planning; Hawaii Community Development Authority; Ko'olau Foundation; Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club; Democratic Party of Hawaii, Hawaiian Affairs Caucus; Nature Conservancy Hawai'i; Kamehameha Schools; and seventeen individuals.

Your Committees find that the State has coordinated with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to nominate He'eia estuary as a National Estuarine Research Reserve. The site, located on Oahu's windward shore, includes He'eia State Park, He'eia fishpond, and the He'eia community development district, as well as marine waters with patch and fringing reefs and Moku o Lo'e (Coconut Island). In 2012, the Office of Planning was designated



as the lead agency to coordinate the selection for a Hawai'i site and the nomination process for He'eia to be designated as a National Estuarine Research Reserve. In 2014, He'eia was officially nominated as a Reserve to support NOAA's policy to encourage expansion of the program in unrepresented areas of the country.

On January 19, 2017, the He'eia site was officially designated as the twenty-ninth site in the National Estuarine Research Reserve System, which enables federal funding to support the implementation of the management plan. Your Committees find that the He'eia site uniquely brings together community and science; federal, state, and local efforts; and modern science and traditional knowledge aimed at implementing and understanding how restoration efforts in the He'eia wetland influence the health of the adjacent estuarine ecosystem.

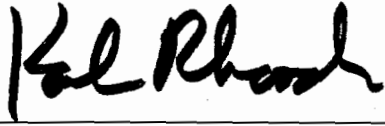
Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Updating the purpose section to reflect current information as provided by the Office of Planning;
- (2) Inserting an appropriation amount of \$400,000 for the hiring of four full-time equivalent (4.00 FTE) permanent positions within the University of Hawaii to maintain the initial staff necessary to develop and manage He'eia estuary;
- (3) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2017; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

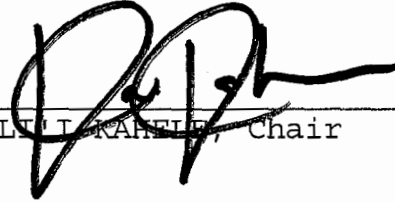
As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Higher Education and Water and Land that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 588, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 588, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Higher Education
and Water and Land,



KARL RHOADS, Chair



KAIULANI KANAHELE, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Ninth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

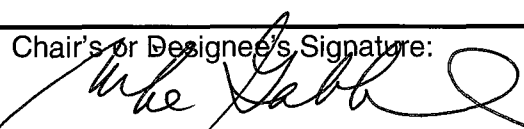
Record of Votes
Committee on Higher Education
HRE

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 588, HD 1	HRE/WTL, WAM	3/21/2017		
<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
KAHELE, Kaiali'i (C)	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)				X
ESPERO, Will	X			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.	X			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.	X			
TOTAL	4			1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>Will Espero</i>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate
 Twenty-Ninth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Water and Land
WTL

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
H. B. 588 HD1	HRE/WTL, WAM	03-21-2017		
<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
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)	✓			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.				✓
KIM, Donna Mercado	✓			
THIELEN, Laura H.	✓			
TOTAL	4	—	—	1
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
				
Distribution:				
Original	Yellow	Pink	Goldenrod	
File with Committee Report	Clerk's Office	Drafting Agency	Committee File Copy	

*Only one measure per Record of Votes