

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 16 2017

RE: S.B. No. 989
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 Water and Land and Judiciary and Labor, to which was referred S.B. No. 989 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES VIOLATIONS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to amend the fines and clarify criminal penalties for destroying or harvesting trees, including koa, on state forest reserve lands, add criminal penalties for violating laws or rules relating to forest reserves, and repeal the general penalty provision in chapter 183, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and two individuals.

Your Committees find that the current fines for destroying or harvesting trees, including koa, on state forest reserve lands are inadequate compared to the current market value of the trees and the costs associated with restoration or replacement of the trees and damages caused by their destruction or harvest. An adjustment in fines is warranted to deter the illegal harvesting and destruction of natural resources within state forest reserves. Your Committees further find that establishing a criminal penalty for certain conservation and resource violations strengthens the Department of Land and Natural Resources' enforcement capabilities and offers additional protection of the State's natural resources.



Your Committees have amended this measure by 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 Judiciary and Labor that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 989, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 989, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Water and Land
and Judiciary and Labor,



GILBERT S.C. KEITH-AGARAN, Chair

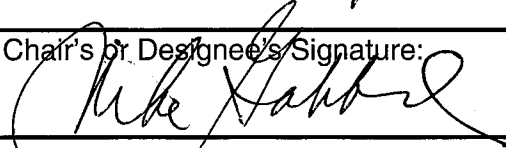


KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Ninth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Water and Land
WTL

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 989	WTL/JDL, WAM	02-06-2017		
<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	3	—	—	2
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

