

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 15 2019

RE: S.B. No. 897

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2019
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred S.B. No. 897 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WATER QUALITY MONITORING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate funds for an additional full-time Environmental Health Specialist IV position within the Department of Health to monitor water quality on the island of Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health, Mayor of the County of Hawaii, County of Hawai'i Department of Environmental Management, Coral Reef Alliance, O'ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and eleven individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Clean Water Branch of the Department of Health has inadequate staff capacity to meet its obligations to perform the timely monitoring that ensures the island of Hawaii's stream and coastal water safety for public swimming, fishing, and other recreation. Your Committee further finds that monitoring and control of contamination from waste water treatment plants, injection wells, and cesspools are especially critical due to their role in harming coral reefs. This measure will provide additional funding for the Department of Health to hire an environmental health specialist to timely meet



the Department's monitoring responsibilities on the island of Hawaii.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture and Environment that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 897 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Agriculture and
Environment,



MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate
Thirtieth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Agriculture and Environment
AEN

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 897	Committee Referral: AEN, WAM	Date: 02-13-2019		
<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
GABBARD, Mike (C)	X			
RUDERMAN, Russell E. (VC)	X			
RHOADS, Karl	X			
THIELEN, Laura H.	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt				X
TOTAL	4	0	0	1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> </div>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes