

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

3295

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 21 2022

RE: H.B. No. 1988
H.D. 2
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2022
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Agriculture and Environment and Water and Land, to which was referred H.B. No. 1988, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CORAL,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Prohibit the sale, import, or export of certain coral products; and
- (2) Require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to amend its administrative rules accordingly no later than December 31, 2022.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Hawaii State Aha Moku, Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, Hawaiian Black Coral, and six individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from For the Fishes, Conservation Council for Hawaii, Kai Palaoa, Moana Ohana, Sierra Club of Hawaii Moku Lua Group, Kalanihale, Friends of Hanauma Bay, Legacy Reef Foundation, Haereticus Environmental Laboratory, Hawaii Reef & Ocean Coalition, Fair Wind Charters, Ocean Defenders Alliance-Hawaii, and one individual. Your



Committees received comments on this measure from the Center for Biological Diversity and Big Island Reef Keepers Hui.

Your Committees find that Hawaii's coral reefs are essential to the State's marine ecosystems and are home to many species found nowhere else in the world. However, the commercial use of coral from the reefs contributes to their decline and degradation. It is critical for the State to protect Hawaii's coral reefs as a source of marine biodiversity. This measure prohibits the sale, import, and export of certain coral products to preserve the health of Hawaii's coral reefs.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Prohibiting the harvesting of coral, except under certain conditions;
- (2) Restricting exemptions for state and federal permitted harvesting to non-commercial purposes;
- (3) Extending the deadline for the Department of Land and Natural Resources to amend its administrative rules to December 31, 2024; 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 Agriculture and Environment and Water and Land that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1988, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1988, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

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


LORRAINE R. INOUE, Chair


MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-First Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Agriculture and Environment
AEN

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB1988 HD2	Committee Referral: (AEN) WTL, CPN	Date: 03/16/22		
<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
GABBARD, Mike (C)	/			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K. (VC)	/			
ACASIO, Laura	/			
RHOADS, Karl	/			
FEVELLA, Kurt	/			
TOTAL	5	—	—	—
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>Clarence K. Nishihara</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
Thirty-First Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Water and Land
WTL

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB 1988, HD 2	Committee Referral: AEN/WTL, CPN	Date: 3/16/22
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The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312
 Pass, with amendments 2311
 Hold 2310
 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
INOUYE, Lorraine R. (C)	X			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (VC)	X			
MISALUCHA, Bennette E.	X			
RIVIERE, Gil	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
TOTAL	5			

Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:


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