

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **2618**

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 18 2022

RE: S.B. No. 2538

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred S.B. No. 2538 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE CRIMINAL DESTRUCTION OF TREES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to make criminal the destruction of any tree on state or county property to be punishable as a misdemeanor.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Climate Protectors Hawai'i, and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney General.

Your Committee finds that this measure supports the State's environmental sustainability goals by protecting Hawaii's trees. Trees are an important source of carbon sequestration and improve the general quality of life of the State's residents.

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. 2538 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committees on Judiciary and Ways and Means.



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

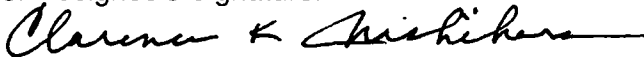
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Gabbard". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "M".

MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-First Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Agriculture and Environment**  
**AEN**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB2538</b>	Committee Referral: <b>AEN, JDC/WAM</b>	Date: <b>01/31/22</b>		
<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)	/			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K. (VC)	/			
ACASIO, Laura		/		
RHOADS, Karl	/			
FEVELLA, Kurt		/		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original     Yellow     Pink     Goldenrod File with Committee Report     Clerk's Office     Drafting Agency     Committee File Copy				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes