STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2366

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 1 6 2022

RE: S.B. No. 3192 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 Water and Land and Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism, to which was referred S.B. No. 3192 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT," beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish within the Department of Land and Natural Resources a visitor green fee program to collect a fee to allow visitors to visit a state park, beach, stateowned forest, hiking trail, or other state-owned natural area;
- (2) Establish the Environmental Legacy Commission to allocate the revenues from the visitor green fee program to protect and manage Hawaii's natural resources; and
- (3) Appropriate funds.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Hawai'i Tourism Authority, Kauhako 'Ohana Association, Surfrider Foundation, Malama Pūpūkea-Waimea, Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo, Hawai'i Alliance for Community Based Economic Development, Climate Protectors Hawai'i, Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action, Ulupono Initiative, Conservation

Council for Hawai'i, Resources Legacy Fund, The Nature Conservancy Hawaii, Hawai'i Conservation Alliance Foundation, Wild Kids, Sustainable Coastlines Hawaii, Hawaii Green Fee, and twenty-seven individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from two individuals. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance, Department of the Attorney General, and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committees find that Hawaii's natural resources, including reefs, beaches, oceans, forests, streams, estuaries, and shorelines provide irreplaceable and invaluable benefits to visitors and the global community at large, which are critical to generating billions of dollars for Hawaii's economy and local community, as well as supporting thousands of jobs. Hawaii's natural environment also faces significant environmental pressure from the heavy use it receives from persons traveling from throughout the world to enjoy the State's natural beauty and resources. Continuing underinvestment in the protection and care of natural resources poses a significant liability to the visitor industry, the stability of our natural systems including our water quality, economic resilience, and health and safety of the citizens of the State.

To address emerging and ongoing environmental issues from climate change, a visitor green fee program would provide additional resources to restore, enhance, and protect in perpetuity, Hawaii's state-owned natural resources. A fee paid by visitors who enjoy Hawaii's public parks, beaches, and trails could generate necessary funding each year to enable Hawaii to leave future generations with a healthy and safe environment. Visitor green fees have also been successfully implemented at other visitor destinations around the world, including the Galapagos Islands, New Zealand, and Palau. In addition, a visitor green fee program would indirectly support economic diversification and potentially create thousands of public and private jobs. To protect Hawaii's natural resources and scenic beauty, this measure establishes a visitor green fee program, and accompanying special fund, to provide sustained funding for the protection, restoration, and care amidst an influx of increased visitor use.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

2022-1791 SSCR SMA.doc

- (1) Adding language to authorize the visitor green fee special fund moneys to be expended for certain purposes;
- (2) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) 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 Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 3192, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 3192, 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 Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism,

GLENN WAKA Chair

The Senate Thirty-First Legislature State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes Committee on Water and Land WTL

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee	Committee Referral: Date:							
SB 3192	WTL/EET, WAY 2/11/22								
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to:									
The Recommendation is:									
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313									
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused				
INOUYE, Lorraine R. (C)		X							
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (VC)		X							
MISALUCHA, Bennette E.		×							
RIVIERE, Gil	·	X							
FEVELLA, Kurt		<u> </u>	<u> </u>						
	<u>-</u> .								
									
		<u> </u>							
		-							
			1						
				<u> </u>					
		<u> </u>							
		· -							
TOTAL		5	0	0	0				
Recommendation:			Not Adopted						
Chair's or Designee's Signature:									
Distribution: Original File with Committee R	Yellow eport Clerk's Office		Pink Drafting Agency	Goldenrod Committee File Copy					

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate Thirty-First Legislature State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism EET

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral: Date:							
SB 3192	WILLET, WAY 2/11/22							
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.								
If so, then the previous decision was to:								
The Recommendation is:								
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313								
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused			
WAKAI, Glenn (C)		✓						
MISALUCHA, Bennette E. (VC)		V /						
LEE, Chris								
RIVIERE, Gil		/						
FEVELLA, Kurt		/						
								
				-				
	<u>.</u>							
				<u>-</u>				
TOTAL		5	Ø	Ø	Ø			
Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted								
Chair's or Designee's Signature: Howette le Mull								
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy								

*Only one measure per Record of Votes