

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **3325**

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 22 2024

RE: H.B. No. 1581
H.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2024
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Water and Land, to which was referred H.B. No. 1581, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WILDFIRE PREVENTION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to develop a Native Plant Nurseries and Seed Bank Initiative Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, University of Hawai'i System, Care for 'Āina Now Coalition, The Nature Conservancy, Lāhainā Strong, Hawai'i Forest Industry Association, Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and six individuals.

Your Committee finds that following the August 2023 Maui wildfires, the Speaker of the Hawaii House of Representatives established six bipartisan interim working groups tasked with evaluating specific topics in the aftermath of the wildfires and making recommendations for appropriate legislative action in the Regular Session of 2024. Your Committee further finds that the findings from the bipartisan interim working groups, specifically the Wildfire Prevention Working Group, highlight the urgent need for preventative action to mitigate the risks of wildfire across the State. This measure will adopt the recommendation of the



Wildfire Prevention Working Group to increase support for native plant nurseries and seed bank initiatives, which aligns with the best practices in ecosystem restoration and wildfire risk reduction.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water and Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1581, H.D. 1, 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 Water and Land,


LORRAINE R. INOUE, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Second Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Water and Land
WTL

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB 1581 HD1	Committee Referral: WTL, WAm	Date: 3/20/24
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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)	✓			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C. (VC)	✓			
CHANG, Stanley	✓			
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K.	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt				✓
TOTAL	4	0	0	1

Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:


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***Only one measure per Record of Votes**