

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 15, 2024

RE: S.B. No. 2502  
S.D. 2  
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Thirty-Second State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2024  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Water & Land, to which was referred S.B. No. 2502, S.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE GENERATION OF WILDFIRE SUSCEPTIBILITY MAPS FOR HAWAII,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require the University of Hawaii to establish and implement a two-year program to develop web-GIS wildfire susceptibility and vulnerability maps for the State to determine which communities, landscapes, buildings, and infrastructure are most vulnerable to future wildfires.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i System; Hawaii Forest Industry Association; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Lahaina Strong; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Maui Chamber of Commerce and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the information provided through wildfire susceptibility and vulnerability maps would allow the prioritization of targeted risk reduction strategies in high-risk areas and assist in the development of adaptation policies that lessen the impacts of future wildfires. Your Committee further finds that these maps would also inform decisions about siting

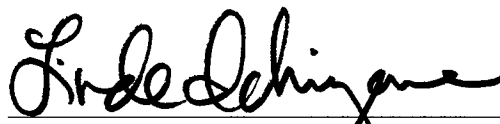


certain essential facilities, such as hospitals, schools, and fire stations, in areas that are less vulnerable to wildfires.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2502, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2502, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Higher Education & Technology.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Water & Land,

  
LINDA ICHIYAMA, Chair



Record of Votes of the Committee on Water & Land

Bill/Resolution No.: HB2502 (D2)	Committee Referral: WAL, HET, FIN	Date: 3/12/24		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
WAL Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. ICHIYAMA, Linda (C)	/			
2. POEPOE, Mahina (VC)	/			
3. CHUN, Cory M.	/			
4. GANADEN, Sonny	/			
5. HASHEM, Mark J.				✓
6. MIZUNO, May Besario	/			
7. MORIKAWA, Dee	/			
8. TAKAYAMA, Gregg	/			
9. SOUZA, Kanani	/			
<b>TOTAL (9)</b>	9	0	0	1
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <small>committee acronym(s)</small>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: <u><i>Linda Ichigoe</i></u>				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee      Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office      Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				