

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

2400

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 15 2024

RE: S.B. No. 2575

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Agriculture and Environment and Water and Land, to which was referred S.B. No. 2575 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to prohibit:

- (1) The mining, extraction, and removal of minerals from the seabed in all state marine waters, under certain conditions; and
- (2) The issuance of any permit for or in connection with the development or operation of any facility or infrastructure associated with the mining, extraction, or removal of minerals from the seabed within state marine waters.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Hawaii Chapter of 350.org, Sierra Club of Hawai'i, Greenpeace Foundation - Hawaii, University of Santa Barbara Benioff Ocean Science Laboratory, Huli Pac, For the Fishes, Hawaii's Thousand Friends, Hawaii Wildlife Fund, Kauai Womens Caucus, Malama Pupukea-Waimea, Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition, Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i, Deep Sea Mining Campaign, National Parks Conservation Association, Oceanic Preservation Society, Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, Surfrider Hawaii LLC, REV Ocean, Blue



Climate Initiative, Tetiaroa Society, Friends of Hanauma Bay, The Conservationist Collective LLC, The Marine Mammal Center, Marine Conservation Institute, The Ocean Foundation, Greenpeace, Inc., Te Ipukarea Society, and five individuals.

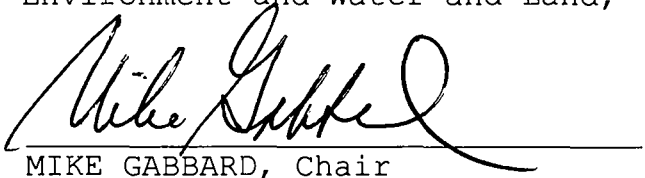
Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committees find that seabed mining and related activities threaten not only the State's rich and biodiverse marine ecosystems, and but also ocean-dependent industries, such as commercial and recreational fishing and tourism. Your Committees therefore find that seabed mining is inconsistent with the public interest and the State's obligation to protect its waters under the Hawaii State Constitution. This measure ensures the protection and preservation of the State's valuable marine environment by prohibiting seabed mining in the State.

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 S.B. No. 2575 and recommend that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

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

  
LORRAINE R. INOUÉ, Chair

  
MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-Second Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

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

Bill / Resolution No.:* <i>SB 2575</i>	Committee Referral: <i>AEN/WTL, JDC</i>	Date: <i>2/5/24</i>		
<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)	✓			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (VC)				✓
DECOITE, Lynn	✓			
RHOADS, Karl	✓			
AWA, Brenton	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<i>4</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>Karl Rhoads</i>				
<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

The Senate  
 Thirty-Second Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Water and Land**  
**WTL**

Bill / Resolution No. :* <b>SB 2575</b>	Committee Referral: <b>AEN/WTL, JDC</b>	Date: <b>02/05/2024</b>
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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	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>ϕ</b>	<b>ϕ</b>	<b>ϕ</b>

Recommendation:       Adopted       Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:  


Distribution:      Original      Yellow      Pink      Goldenrod  
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