

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2408

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 15 2024

RE: S.B. No. 2083  
S.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 Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred S.B. No. 2083 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RESTORATIVE AQUACULTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Agriculture's Aquaculture Development Program to conduct a feasibility study to identify potential sites in the State for restorative aquaculture activities; and
- (2) Require the Department of Agriculture to submit a report to the Legislature no later than twenty days before the Regular Session of 2025; and
- (3) Appropriate \$300,000 for the Department of Agriculture's Aquaculture Development Program to conduct a feasibility study to identify potential sites in the State for restorative aquaculture activities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture and the Hawai'i Farm Bureau.

Your Committee finds that restorative aquaculture is a sustainable opportunity for food production that can also benefit



the ocean and climate. Your Committee recognizes that the State is well-positioned and suited for restorative aquaculture activities because of its favorable climate, critical ocean biosecurity through natural isolation, and high seafood consumption. According to testimony received by your Committee, thorough planning is necessary to sustain initiatives that incorporate conservation benefits with good aquacultural practices. The identification of viable locations for restorative aquaculture activities as provided in this measure will support proper permitting, efficient resource allocation, and community support for projected activities.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

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. 2083, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2083, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.


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

  
MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-Second Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

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

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 2083	AEN, WAM	2/2/24		
<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 type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" 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)	X			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (VC)	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
RHOADS, Karl	X			
AWA, Brenton				X
<b>TOTAL</b>	4	0	0	1
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