

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 22 2025

RE: GOV. MSG. NO. 745

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2025  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Water and Land, to which was referred Governor's Message No. 745, submitting for study and consideration the nomination of:

NATURAL AREA RESERVES SYSTEM COMMISSION

G.M. No. 745      THORNE ABBOTT,  
for a term to expire 06-30-2029,

begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee reviewed the personal history, resume, and statement submitted by Thorne Abbott for service on the Natural Area Reserves System Commission.

Your Committee received testimony in support of the nomination for the reappointment of Thorne Abbott from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Hawaii State Aha Moku, Hanalei Watershed Hui, Maui Nui Marine Resource Council, and two individuals.

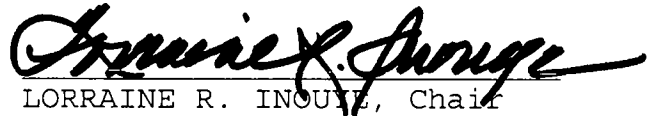
Upon review of the testimony, your Committee finds that Mr. Abbott's experience, knowledge, and proven leadership on the Natural Area Reserves System Commission qualify him for reappointment to the Commission as a member possessing scientific qualifications evidenced by an academic degree. Your Committee notes that Mr. Abbott has a Masters of Science in Environmental Management and has more than twenty years of experience in coastal permitting in Hawaii and is proficient in coastal planning and Hawaii land use laws. Mr. Abbott is active in the coastal management community and has served on the Hawaiian Islands



Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Committee and Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Research Advisory Council. Your Committee finds that Mr. Abbott has served on the Natural Area Reserves System Commission since 2021 and has previously served on the Legacy Land Conservation Commission, and therefore understands the role and responsibilities of commission members. Mr. Abbott's experience and knowledge will continue to be assets to the Natural Area Reserves System Commission. Your Committee therefore recommends that Thorne Abbott be reappointed to the Natural Area Reserves System Commission based on his experience, knowledge, and commitment to public service.

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, after full consideration of the background, experience, and qualifications of the nominee, has found the nominee to be qualified for the position to which nominated and recommends that the Senate advise and consent to the nomination.


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

  
LORRAINE R. INOUÉ, Chair



The Senate  
Thirty-Third Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

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

Governor's Message No.:* <b>GM 745</b>	Committee Referral: <b>WTL</b>	Date: <b>4/11/25</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its decision				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-start;"><div style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advise and Consent 2340</div><div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Not Advise and Consent 2345</div></div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
INOUE, Lorraine R. (C)	✓			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C. (VC)	✓			
CHANG, Stanley	✓			
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K.	✓			
DECORTE, Samantha	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted</div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: small;"><div>Original File with Committee Report</div><div>Yellow Clerk's Office</div><div>Pink Drafting Agency</div><div>Goldenrod Committee File Copy</div></div>				

\*Only one Governor's Message per Record of Votes