STAND. COM. REP. NO. [0]

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 04 ' 2025

RE: H.B. No. 969 H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura Speaker, House of Representatives Thirty-Third State Legislature Regular Session of 2025 State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, to which was referred H.B. No. 969 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WASTE OR DISPOSAL FACILITIES," begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the construction, modification, or expansion of any waste or disposal facility on land that is near or above a significant aquifer, as determined by the Department of Health.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Honolulu Board of Water Supply; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; North Shore Chamber of Commerce; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; IATSE Local 665; Health Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Farmers Union; Kupuna for the Moopuna; Green Party of Hawai'i; Ka Lahui Hawai'i; Free Access Coalition; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the County of Kaua'i Department of Public Works. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health and Department of Environmental Services of the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee finds that the State's aquifers are essential to public health and safety. Aquifers provide source water for domestic uses, agricultural irrigation, industrial uses, cultural practices, and environmental habitats through springs and wetlands. This measure strives to protect the State's aquifers by preventing possible environmental contamination through landfills and other waste or disposal facilities.

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 Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 969, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 969, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection,

NICOLE E. LOWEN, Chair

Record of Votes of the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

Bill/Resolution No.:	Committee			Date:	1/6.1	/
HB 969	EEP,	WAL, JHF	f		V30/2	Ś
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.						
The recommendation is to: Pass, unamended (as is) Pass, with amendments (HD) Hold Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)						
EEP Members		Ayes	Ayes (W	R)	Nays	Excused
1. LOWEN, Nicole E. (C)		$\overline{}$				
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2. PERRUSO, Amy A. (VC)		\checkmark				
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3. KAHALOA, Kirstin		V	-			
4. KUSCH, Matthias		V		A\$	N. C.	
			31.2 323		Torrick	
5. QUINLAN, Sean	ili engler engle	V				And the International Course
6. WARD, Gene	"3. 13			586-1 J		
v. WARD, GERE						
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TOTAL (6)		5				1
The recommendation is: Adopted If joint referral, did not support recommendation. Committee acronym(s)						
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:						
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO						