STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1718

Honolulu, Hawaii MAR 3 1 , 2025

RE: H.C.R. No. 197

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

Madame:

Your Committee on Water & Land, to which was referred H.C.R. No. 197 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO CLARIFY THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND DETERMINE WHETHER THE LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION OF THE COMMISSION SHOULD BE AMENDED,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to request the Department of Land and Natural Resources to convene a working group to clarify the purpose of the Commission on Water Resource Management and determine whether the leadership and composition of the Commission should be amended.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee finds that the Commission on Water Resource Management (Commission) plays a crucial role in overseeing and managing the State's water resources. Your Committee further finds that in 1994, the Review Commission on the State Water Code submitted recommendations that proposed changes to the Commission's legal and organizational framework and proposed a

2025-2945 HCR197 HSCR HMSO



follow-up review to take place ten years after the adoption of its recommendations; however, the recommended follow-up review was not conducted. Given the urgent need to protect and properly steward the State's water resources, your Committee believes that a review of the Commission's purpose and its leadership structure and board composition is warranted to ensure effective and efficient water resource management.

Page 2

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 197 and recommends its adoption.

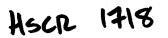
> Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Water & Land,

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

MARK J. HASHEM, Chair



## State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Thirty-third Legislature



## Record of Votes of the Committee on Water & Land

Bill/Resolution No.: HCR 197	Committee Referral:	Date	31251	2025
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)				
WAL Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. HASHEM, Mark J. (C)				
2. LAMOSAO, Rachele F. (VC)				
3. BELATTI, Della Au				
4. ICHIYAMA, Linda				
4. ICHITAMA, Linda				
5. IWAMOTO, Kim Coco				
6. MORIKAWA, Dee			n an	and the second
7. POEPOE, Mahina				
8. WOODSON, Justin H.				
9. SHIMIZU, Garner M.			References	1986
10. SOUZA, Kanani				
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<b>TOTAL (10)</b>	10	0	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$
The recommendation is: Adopted D Not Adopted				
/ If joint referral, did not support recommendation.				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				