

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 14 2025

RE: S.B. No. 1331
S.D. 1

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 S.B. No. 1331 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE LAND STUDY BUREAU SOIL RATING SYSTEM,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to update the soil data used by the Land Study Bureau Soil Rating System with current data and approaches.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Department of Agriculture; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; University of Hawai'i System; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; and Hawai'i Farmers Union United.

Your Committee finds that accurate soil data reflecting soil characteristics, soil properties, and identification of limits, risks, and soil suitability for various uses helps optimize public and private investments in agriculture. This measure will ensure the optimal use of the State's agricultural lands by requiring the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to update the soil data used by the Land Study Bureau.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:



- (1) Changing the name of CTAHR from the College of Agriculture and Human Resources to the College of Agriculture and Human Resilience, to reflect its recent name change;
- (2) Inserting an effective date of January 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) 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 Water and Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1331, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1331, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

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


LORRAINE R. INOUE, Chair



Record of Votes
Committee on Water and Land
WTL

*Only one measure per Record of Votes