

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

949

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 28 2025

RE: S.B. No. 1541
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 Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 1541, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE WAIAHOLE WATER SYSTEM,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate moneys to the Agribusiness Development Corporation to pay off the bond debt service on the Waiahole water system and repair the adit 8 tunnel of the Waiahole water system.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Agribusiness Development Corporation, Bayer, Hawaii Crop Improvement Association, Hawaii Farm Bureau, Land Use Research Foundation, Larry Jefts Farms, LLC, and Ulupono Initiative.

Your Committee finds that the Waiahole water system serves land in central and leeward Oahu, much of which is in agricultural use, provides employment, and contributes to the state economy. Your Committee notes that although Waiahole water system users have decreased their water usage through adoption of efficiency measures, the cost of water remains high to offset debt service payments. This increased cost is passed along to consumers through higher food prices. Your Committee further finds that deferred maintenance threatens the functioning of the Waiahole



water system; particularly urgent are repairs to the adit 8 tunnel through which all water in the system passes.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1541, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,


DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
SB 1541, SD1	EDT, WAM	2/27/25

☐ The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
 If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

☒ Pass, unamended
2312

☐ Pass, with amendments
2311

☐ Hold
2310

☐ Recommit
2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y. (VC)	X			
AQUINO, Henry J.C.	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	X			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	X			
INOUE, Lorraine R.	X			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X			
KIM, Donna Mercado	X			
LEE, Chris	X			
WAKAI, Glenn	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
TOTAL	13	0	0	0

Recommendation: ☒ Adopted ☐ Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:

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*Only one measure per Record of Votes