

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 02 2025

RE: S.C.R. No. 157

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Transportation and Culture and the Arts
and Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred S.C.R.
No. 157 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE STATE TO ADOPT THE
AGREEMENT UNDER THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF
THE SEA ON THE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF MARINE
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF AREAS BEYOND NATIONAL JURISDICTION
AND SUPPORT LEGISLATIVE, ADMINISTRATIVE, AND POLICY MEASURES
TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT AT THE STATE AND COUNTY LEVELS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to urge the State
to adopt the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the
Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine
Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction and
support legislative, administrative, and policy measures to
implement the Agreement at the State and county levels.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure
from the Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition and one individual.

Your Committees received comments on this measure from the
Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committees find that nearly two-thirds of the oceans are
global commons. The majority of this natural resource therefore
belongs to no one in particular but is the responsibility of all



to safeguard against threats such as climate change, pollution, and overuse. The Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction is an initiative offering measures to conserve vast geographical areas so that all may continue to benefit from their use, with a focus on marine genetic resources and their digital sequence information. This measure urges the State to adopt the Agreement and support legislative, administrative, and policy measures for its implementation to promote the conservation and sustainable use of valuable shared natural resources.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Transportation and Culture and the Arts and Agriculture and Environment that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 157 and recommend its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Transportation
and Culture and the Arts and
Agriculture and Environment,



MIKE GABBARD, Chair



CHRIS LEE, Chair



Record of Votes
Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts
TCA

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

Record of Votes
Committee on Agriculture and Environment
AEN

*Only one measure per Record of Votes