

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 02 2025

RE: S.R. No. 137

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred
S.R. No. 137 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME
LANDS TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A WATER ACCESS PILOT PROJECT
DEMONSTRATING THE KOHALA REGION'S CAPACITY FOR A POTABLE
WATER SYSTEM,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to develop and implement a water
access pilot project demonstrating the Kohala region's capacity
for a potable water system.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this
measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that increased access to safe drinking
water and water for agricultural use is a matter of great
importance to the State, and particularly to rural island
communities. Your Committee further finds that the Kohala region
on Hawaii Island, which is owned by the Department of Hawaiian
Home Lands, is an ideal location for the construction of a water
pump storage hydroelectric facility, which would provide a source
of potable water, water for irrigation, and reduce energy costs in



the region. Accordingly, this measure requests the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to implement a water access pilot project to demonstrate that the Kohala mountains are an appropriate site for a new potable water system to serve the people of the area.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 137 and recommends its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs,


HERBERT M. RICHARDS, III, Chair



Record of Votes
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
HWN

*Only one measure per Record of Votes