Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 0 2 2025

S.R. No. 137 RE:

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,

HEDREDT M DICHARDS III Chair

## The Senate Thirty-Third Legislature State of Hawai'i

## Record of Votes Committee on Hawaiian Affairs HWN

Bill / Resolution No.:*  SR 137	Committee Referral:		Dat	te:	2025
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.  If so, then the previous decision was to:					
The Recommendation is:					
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313					
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (C)					
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A. (VC)					
IHARA, Jr., Les					
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett					
DECORTE, Samantha					
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TOTAL		4		L	
Recommendation:  Adopted  Not Adopted					
Chair's or Designee's Signature:					
Distribution: Original Yellow File with Committee Report Clerk's Office			Pink Goldenrod Drafting Agency Committee File Copy		

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes