

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2025

COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

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Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
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Rep. Dee Morikawa	Rep. Kanani Souza

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, March 11, 2025
TIME: 9:00am
PLACE: VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE
Conference Room 411
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Click [here](#) to submit testimony and to testify remotely or in person.

A live stream link of all House Standing Committee meetings will be available online shortly before the scheduled start time.

Click [here](#) for the live stream of this meeting via YouTube.

A G E N D A



[SB 11, SD2](#)
[\(SSCR1004\)](#)
[Status](#)

RELATING TO VEGETATION MANAGEMENT NEAR UTILITY LINES.

WAL/PBS, EEP,
FIN

Requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources to create and annually update a wildfire hazard map. Requires private and public property owners to trim grasses within certain proximities of public rights of way and utility lines, enforced by the State Fire Marshal as to State-owned land and the applicable county fire department as to privately owned land. Authorizes electric utility companies to enter private or public property to trim or remove hazardous vegetation. Appropriates funds. Effective 6/1/2050. (SD2)

[SB 1296, SD2](#)
[\(SSCR1019\)](#)
[Status](#)

RELATING TO DISASTER RECOVERY.

WAL/PBS, JHA

Exempts reconstructions of any lawfully constructed structure that was damaged or destroyed in a disaster proclaimed by the Governor to constitute a state of emergency from the requirements of a special management area minor permit or a special management area use permit under certain conditions. (SD2)

[SB 1170, SD2](#)
[\(SSCR997\)](#)
[Status](#)

RELATING TO THE EXPEDITIOUS REDEVELOPMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING.

WAL, HSG, JHA

Authorizes the director of a county planning department to issue a special management area use permit to redevelop permanent affordable multi-family rental housing that has been substantially destroyed as result of a disaster declared as a state of emergency. Clarifies eligibility for affordable housing projects to receive an exemption. Requires administrative review of projects under the National Register or Hawaii Register for compliance. (SD2)

[SB 1099](#)
[\(SSCR956\)](#)
[Status](#)

RELATING TO IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL LANDS.

WAL, AGR, JHA

Authorizes the Land Use Commission to designate important agricultural lands and adopt maps for the designated lands in counties that fail to identify and recommend important agricultural lands by December 31, 2027.

[SB 739, SD2](#)
[\(SSCR761\)](#)
[Status](#)

RELATING TO LAND EXCHANGE.

WAL, AGR, FIN

Allows the Governor to negotiate land exchanges in consultation with the Board of Land and Natural Resources to acquire lands that are suitable for long-term diversified agricultural production in exchange for land for private affordable housing development. Requires a report to the Legislature. Effective 1/1/2050. (SD2)

[SB 867, SD2](#)
[\(SSCR1047\)](#)
[Status](#)

RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

WAL, HSG, FIN

Establishes a working group within the Office of the Governor for administrative purposes to ascertain the State's available water resources and water system source capacity and to streamline well permit approval processes to further plan for the development of affordable housing. Requires the working group to inventory all available water resources statewide and identify sources of aquifer replenishment in relation to affordable housing development. Requires an interim and final report to the Legislature. (SD2)



[SB 1221, SD2](#)
[\(SSCR925\)](#)
[Status](#)

RELATING TO STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS.
Prohibits counties from permitting or allowing retention and detention ponds to be constructed except under certain conditions. Establishes safety requirements for retention and detention ponds statewide. Requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources to inspect retention and detention ponds statewide. Requires a report to the Legislature. Establishes positions. Appropriates moneys. Effective 5/13/2040. (SD2)

WAL, JHA, FIN

[SB 657, SD1](#)
[\(SSCR942\)](#)
[Status](#)

RELATING TO THE CENTER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENT DEVELOPMENT.
Appropriates funds for the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology within the University of Hawaii at Manoa to establish and operate a Center for Climate Resilient Development. Effective 7/31/2050. (SD1)

WAL, HED, FIN

DECISION MAKING TO FOLLOW

Persons wishing to offer comments should submit testimony at least **24 hours** prior to the hearing. Testimony received after this time will be stamped late and left to the discretion of the chair to consider. While every effort will be made to incorporate all testimony received, materials received on the day of the hearing or improperly identified or directed, may not be processed.

Testimony submitted will be placed on the legislative website. This public posting of testimony on the website should be considered when including personal information in your testimony.

The chair may institute a per-testifier time limit.

Committees meeting in the morning must adjourn prior to the day's Floor Session. Therefore, due to time constraints, not all testifiers may be provided an opportunity to offer verbal comments. However, written submissions will be considered by the committee.

Please refrain from profanity or uncivil behavior. Violations may result in ejection from the hearing without the ability to rejoin.

For remote testifiers, the House will not be responsible for bad connections on the testifier's end.

For general help navigating the committee hearing process, please contact the Public Access Room at (808) 587-0478 or par@capitol.hawaii.gov.

The livestream and/or cable TV broadcast of this meeting will include closed captioning. If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation (including oral, written, or ASL interpretive services) or are unable to submit testimony via the website due to a disability, please contact the committee clerk at 808-586-6510. Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled.

Click [here](#) for a complete list of House Guidelines for remote testimony.

FOR AMENDED NOTICES: Measures that have been deleted are stricken through and measures that have been added are bolded.

For more information, please contact the Committee Clerk at (808) 586-6510



Rep. Della Au Belatti
Chair

Rep. Mark J. Hashem
Chair

