

THE SENATE  
KA 'AHA KENEKOA

THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2025

COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair  
Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Chair  
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Monday, February 3, 2025  
TIME: 1:05 PM  
PLACE: Conference Room 229 & Videoconference  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
TIMESLOT: WTL

PHOTO ID REQUIRED FOR ENTRANCE TO THE STATE CAPITOL  
BUILDING HOURS: 7AM TO 5PM, MONDAY - FRIDAY

*The Legislature is accepting written, videoconference, and in-person testimony at public hearings.*  
A live stream of all Senate Standing Committee meetings will be available on the [Senate YouTube Channel](#).

A G E N D A

SB 3

Status &  
Testimony

RELATING TO WATER.

Authorizes the Commission of Water Resource Management to retain independent legal counsel. Repeals the position of First Deputy to the Chairperson of the CWRM and establishes the position of Executive Director of the CWRM. Authorizes entities to challenge an emergency order of the CWRM under certain conditions. Establishes fines for certain water use offenses. Amends the CWRM's authority to declare water emergencies and issue orders to address them and declare water shortages and related notice requirements. Adds the management of groundwater near the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility to the powers and duties of the CWRM. Transfers all rights, powers, functions, and duties of DLNR relating to water resource management to CWRM. Effective 7/1/2026, amends the composition of the CWRM, amends the designation of the Chairperson of the CWRM, limits CWRM's placement within the Department of Land and Natural Resources for administrative purposes only, and adds one member to the nominating committee for CWRM, to be appointed and by the Chief Executive Officer of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

WTL/PSM,  
JDC/WAM

**SB 130**

**Status &  
Testimony**

**RELATING TO SEARCH AND RESCUE.**

Requires government entities to seek reimbursement for all or a portion of search or rescue expenses for persons who require rescue after leaving a hiking trail to enter an area closed to the public or hiking on a trail closed to the public, and there is a sign giving notice of the closure.

WTL/PSM,  
JDC/WAM

**SB 223**

**Status &  
Testimony**

**RELATING TO FIRE PREVENTION.**

Requires certain owners and occupants of properties located in hazardous fire areas to maintain effective firebreaks within thirty feet of the property and to practice other fire prevention activities. Establishes the Community Fuels Reduction Project to be administered by the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Requires a report to the Legislature. Appropriates funds.

WTL/PSM,  
JDC/WAM

Decision Making to follow, if time permits.

All testimony received by the Hawai'i Senate is posted on the Hawai'i Legislature's website, which is accessible to the public. Please do not include private information that you do not want disclosed to the public.

Please go to the Legislature's website, <https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov>, to submit **written testimony** at least 24 hours prior to the hearing. Create a free account on the website, or sign in to an existing account, then click on the "Participate" drop down menu and select the "Submit Testimony" option to get started. While submitting your written testimony, you will be prompted to indicate if you would also like to testify at the hearing in-person or remotely via videoconference.

Please note the following:

- The number of oral testifiers and/or time allotted to each testifier may be limited by the Chair when necessary to adhere to the committee hearing schedule. We may not be able to accommodate everyone who requests to testify orally.
- Testifiers for this hearing will be limited to **2 minutes** each.

If you wish to **testify via videoconference** during the hearing, please review the detailed step-by-step instructions for testimony procedures before you submit your written testimony. Here's a direct link to the instructions: <https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/docs/testimonyinstructions.pdf>

For general help navigating the committee hearing process, please contact the Public Access Room at (808) 587-0478 or [par@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:par@capitol.hawaii.gov). You can also visit their website at <https://lrb.hawaii.gov/par/>.

For special assistance: The cable TV broadcast and/or live stream of this meeting will include closed captioning. If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, please call the committee clerk at the telephone number listed below or email [WTLcommittee@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:WTLcommittee@capitol.hawaii.gov). Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled.

For amended notices: Measures that have been deleted are stricken through and measures that have been added are underscored. If a measure is both underscored and stricken through, that measure has been deleted from the agenda.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE COMMITTEE CLERK AT (808) 586-8399.

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Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante  
Chair

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Senator Lorraine R. Inouye  
Chair