

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1730

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 04 2025

RE: H.B. No. 345  
H.D. 2  
S.D. 1

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 H.B. No. 345, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE STATE SHRIMP,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish the 'opae 'ula as the state shrimp to protect anchialine pool ecosystems throughout the State.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Kua'aina Ulu 'Auamo, Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition, Keepers of Kalahuipua'a, Hawai'i Wildlife Fund, and six individuals.

Your Committees find that anchialine pools are culturally sacred, ecologically significant aquatic ecosystems which form when fresh and seawater mix underground and rise up through cracks in lava near the coast-line forming an enclosed body of water. Anchialine pools were historically a vital source of water and sustenance to Native Hawaiians and are now central to the revival of many traditional practices. The health of anchialine pools is often indicated by the population of 'opae 'ula, a native shrimp species. Accordingly, this measure designates the 'opae 'ula as

the state shrimp to raise awareness of and support efforts to protect anchialine pools as a valuable limited natural resource.

Your Committees have amended this measure by inserting an effective date of June 6, 2944, to encourage further discussion.

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 are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 345, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 345, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

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









