STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1771

Honolulu, Hawaii , 2023

MAR 30 '

RE: H.R. No. 56

Honorable Scott K. Saiki Speaker, House of Representatives Thirty-Second State Legislature Regular Session of 2023 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Water & Land, to which was referred H.R. No. 56 entitled:

"HOUSE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE HAWAI'I COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE OPPORTUNITIES FOR INCREASING WATER ACCESS AND STRENGTHENING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES ON HAWAI'I ISLAND,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to request the Hawaii County Department of Water Supply to convene a working group to examine opportunities for increasing water access and strengthening water infrastructure for underserved communities on Hawaii Island.

Your Committee did not receive any written testimony on this measure.

Your Committee finds that many communities located on the southwestern side of Hawaii Island lack access to county water infrastructure, posing a glaring example of structural inequality for that part of the island, which ranks below the state average in household income, educational attainment, and other key social and economic indicators. Your Committee further finds that lack of access to a consistent water supply prevents the development of basic infrastructure in rural and remote areas, including the establishment of public schools, medical and community health



STAND. COM. REP. NO. /777 Page 2

centers, grocery stores, and financial institutions. The working group contemplated by this measure would evaluate ways to address this water access inequity and involve key stakeholders in the process.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 56 and recommends its adoption.

> Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Water & Land,

DK

LINDA ICHIYAMA, Chair



State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Thirty-second Legislature

Record of Votes of the Committee on Water & Land

Bill/Resolution No.: HR50		tee Referral: VAL	Date	3/29/2	3	
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.						
The recommendation is to:	Pass, unamended Pass short form		ss, with amendments ommit for future publi			
WAL Members		Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused	
1. ICHIYAMA, Linda (C)					
2. POEPOE, Mahina (V	7 C)					
2 CHUN Conv M						
3. CHUN, Cory M.					2 Z Z	
4. GANADEN, Sonny						
5. HASHEM, Mark J.	and a second					
6. MORIKAWA, Dee						
				14/11/0		
7. TAKAYAMA, Gregg						
8. SOUZA, Kanani						
	<u></u>					
			· ·			
TOTAL	(8)	8	0	0	0	
The recommendation is: Adopted Image: Not Adopted If joint referral,						
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:						
Distribution: Original (Whi	Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO					