

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1038 -24

Honolulu, Hawaii
, 2024

MAR 01

RE: H.B. No. 2743
H.D. 2

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2024
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Finance, to which was referred H.B. No. 2743, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WASTEWATER,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require each county to develop and maintain a wastewater management plan;
- (2) Authorize the Director of Health to exempt a county from creating a wastewater management plan if the county has an existing wastewater management plan that substantially meets certain requirements;
- (3) Require the counties to identify specific priority areas in which the county sewer system or other centralized treatment system will be expanded or constructed to reduce or eliminate cesspools before January 1, 2050, and provide for the designation of these areas as sewer improvement districts;
- (4) Authorize each county to assess a monthly cesspool pollution fee beginning on July 1, 2025, on real properties containing a cesspool;



- (5) Authorize the counties to use cesspool pollution fee revenues for certain activities that eliminate, reduce, or mitigate the impacts of cesspools, including the expansion of county sewer systems and the issuance of grants and low-interest loans to property owners; and
- (6) Provide appropriations.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program; University of Hawai'i Water Resources Research Center; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Hawai'i State Association of Counties; Surfrider Foundation, Hawai'i Region; The Nature Conservancy; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Indivisible Hawaii; Ocean Preservation Society; Keiko Conservation; WAI: Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations; Public Access to SunScreens Coalition; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and eight individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Public Works of the County of Kaua'i; one member of the Hawai'i County Council; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the number of full-time equivalent positions to unspecified numbers.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2743, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2743, H.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Finance,



KYLE T. YAMASHITA, Chair



