

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

356

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 11 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 1278
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Water & Land, to which was referred H.B. No. 1278 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HAZARDOUS TREE REMOVAL,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds for the assessment and removal of hazardous trees on state lands.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that according to the 2023 State of Hawaii Hazard Mitigation Plan, windstorm events significantly contribute to downed trees, which can cause power outages, road closures, significant traffic delays, and serious injuries. Your Committee further finds that the State has a duty to maintain state-owned forests adjacent to residential areas to protect the health and safety of these communities from the dangers posed by downed trees. Your Committee believes that providing the Department of Land and Natural Resources with dedicated funds for the assessment and removal of hazardous trees on state lands will enable the Department to promptly address hazardous trees and protect human life and property.

2025-1546 HB1278 HD1 HSCR HMSO



Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1278, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1278, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

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



MARK J. HASHEM, Chair



Record of Votes of the Committee on Water & Land

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1278	Committee Referral: WAL, FIN	Date: 2/6/2025		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
WAL Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. HASHEM, Mark J. (C)	✓			
2. LAMOSAO, Rachele F. (VC)	✓			
3. BELATTI, Della Au	✓			
4. ICHIYAMA, Linda				✓
5. IWAMOTO, Kim Coco	✓			
6. MORIKAWA, Dee	✓			
7. POEPOE, Mahina	✓			
8. WOODSON, Justin H.	✓			
9. SHIMIZU, Garner M.	✓			
10. SOUZA, Kanani	✓			
TOTAL (10)	9	0	0	1
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <small>committee acronym(s)</small>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				