

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

591

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 13 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 1495
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. 1495, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE KEAUHOU AQUIFER SYSTEM,"
begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish and appropriate funds for the Keauhou Aquifer System Monitoring Pilot Project within the Department of Land and Natural Resources; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the installation of two monitoring wells in the Keauhou Aquifer System.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority; Department of Water Supply of the County of Hawai'i; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Keauhou Aquifer System is a critical water source that supports local communities, ecosystems, and cultural traditions. However, the system faces significant challenges from rising water demand and potential overuse.

2025-1748 HB1495 HD1 HSCR HMSO

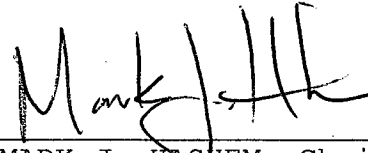


Recognizing the importance of safeguarding these vital water resources, your Committee believes this measure will address these concerns by establishing a Keauhou Aquifer System Monitoring Pilot Project and allocating funds for the installation of two monitoring wells.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider the estimated cost of at least \$3,000,000 per monitoring well.

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. 1495, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark J. Hashem', written over a horizontal line.

MARK J. HASHEM, Chair



HSCR 591

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1495 HD1		Committee Referral: BEP, WAL, PIN		Date: 2-11-2025	
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.					
The recommendation is to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input 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)		10	0	0	0
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)					
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____					
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO					