STAND. COM. REP. NO. 294

Honolulu, Hawaii FEB 10 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 309 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 Higher Education, to which was referred H.B. No. 309, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO FISHPONDS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish a working group within the University of Hawai'i Sea Grant Program to develop an inventory of state-owned fishponds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Agriculture; University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Kauai Climate Action Coalition; Malama Kaua'i; Hawai'i Farmers Union United; Historic Hawai'i Foundation; Hawai'i Ocean Legislative Task Force; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Hawai'i Food+ Policy; Pacific Whale Foundation; Mālama Pa'akea o Waimalau; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that the University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program (Hawai'i Sea Grant) has supported the restoration

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of loko i'a and the perpetuation of loko i'a practice for decades as part of its mission to improve understanding and stewardship of coastal and marine resources. Your Committee further finds that the Hawai'i Sea Grant's expertise and partnerships with the Department of Land and Natural Resources and other partners involved in the restoration, preservation, and perpetuation of Hawaiian fishponds will be of great value in developing an inventory of state-owned fishponds.

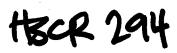
As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 309, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

> Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Higher Education,

GARRETT, Chair



State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Thirty-third Legislature



Record of Votes of the Committee on Higher Education

	Committee Referral:Date:WAL, HED, FJN02,05,2025			
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: Pass, unamended (as is) Pass, with amendments (HD) Hold Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
HED Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. GARRETT, Andrew Takuya (C)				
2. AMATO, Terez (VC)				
3. EVSLIN, Luke A.			2 - <u>19</u> 27 - Arritano	
4. KAPELA, Jeanne				H. LEWIS
		and a second second	<u> .</u>	
5. KILA, Darius K.				
6. LA CHICA, Trish				
7. OLDS, Ikaika		and a second	10-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-	
8. SAYAMA, Jackson D.				
9. WOODSON, Justin H.			- er sin sin	
10. MURAOKA, Christopher L.				
11. SOUZA, Kanani				
TOTAL (11)				
The recommendation is: Image: Adopted and the support recommendation is: If joint referral,				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Daplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				
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