

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

294

Honolulu, Hawaii

, 2025

FEB 10

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,



ANDREW TAKUYA GARRETT, Chair



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Bill/Resolution No.: HB309 HD1		Committee Referral: WAL, HED, FIN		Date: 02.05.2025	
<input checked="" 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)					
HED Members		Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. GARRETT, Andrew Takuya (C)		✓			
2. AMATO, Terez (VC)		✓			
3. EVSLIN, Luke A.		✓			
4. KAPELA, Jeanne		✓			
5. KILA, Darius K.		✓			
6. LA CHICA, Trish		✓			
7. OLDS, Ikaika		✓			
8. SAYAMA, Jackson D.		✓			
9. WOODSON, Justin H.		✓			
10. MURAOKA, Christopher L.		✓			
11. SOUZA, Kanani		✓			
TOTAL (11)		11			
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					