

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

348

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 11, 2025

RE: H.B. No. 749
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 Energy & Environmental Protection, to which
was referred H.B. No. 749 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CESSPOOLS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Cesspool Conversion Section within the
Department of Health's Wastewater Branch that is
dedicated to facilitating the conversion of cesspools
within the State; and
- (2) Establish and appropriate funds for positions within the
Cesspool Conversion Section.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Office of the Mayor of the County of Maui; Environmental
Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Public Access to
SunScreens Coalition; Hawai'i Reef Ocean Coalition; Coral Reef
Alliance; Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea; WAI: Wastewater Alternatives &
Innovations; The Nature Conservancy; Hawai'i Wai Ola; Resources
Legacy Fund; Pacific Whale Foundation; Surfrider Foundation; and
six individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure
from the Department of Health.

2025-1401 HB749 HD1 HSCR HMSO



Your Committee finds that every cesspool in the State, excluding cesspools granted certain exemptions, is required to be upgraded or converted to a director-approved wastewater system or connected to a sewerage system by January 1, 2050. Your Committee further finds that the Department of Health needs additional personnel to facilitate compliance with this mandate. This measure addresses this need by establishing a Cesspool Conversion Section within the Wastewater Branch of the Department of Health which will be responsible for facilitating the conversion of cesspools within the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

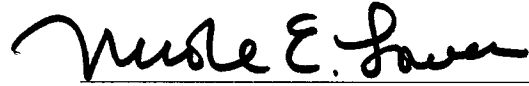
- (1) Changing the number of positions established to an unspecified number;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$280,000 and three full-time equivalent (3.0 FTE) positions within the Cesspool Conversion Section.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 749, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 749, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Energy &
Environmental Protection,



NICOLE E. LOWEN, Chair



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Bill/Resolution No.: HB 749		Committee Referral: EEP, FIN		Date: 2/4/2025	
<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)					
EEP Members		Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. LOWEN, Nicole E. (C)		✓			
2. PERRUSO, Amy A. (VC)		✓			
3. KAHALOA, Kirstin		✓			
4. KUSCH, Matthias		✓			
5. QUINLAN, Sean		✓			
6. WARD, Gene					✓
TOTAL (6)		5			1
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: <u>Amy Perruso</u>					
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO					