

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

598

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 13 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 879
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. 879, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CESSPOOL CONVERSIONS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Increase the maximum grant amount for the Cesspool Compliance Pilot Grant Project; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the Cesspool Compliance Pilot Grant Project.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; Department of Health; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; WAI: Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations; and three individuals.

Your Committee finds that all cesspools in the State must be upgraded or converted to a wastewater system by 2050. Your Committee further finds that while grants to assist low- and moderate-income property owners in their cesspool upgrades or conversions were authorized by Act 153, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, these grants may not be sufficient to cover the full cost of an upgrade or conversion. Your Committee believes that

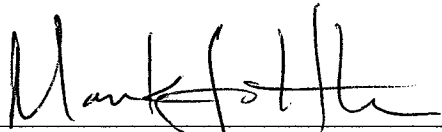


authorizing additional funds and increasing the maximum amount of the grant allowed will enable the State to reach its policy goals and better protect the State's waters.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider making the program a loan program, rather than a grant program, and to consider establishing need-based qualifications for applicants.

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. 879, 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,


MARK J. HASLEM, Chair



HSCR 598

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 879 HD1	Committee Referral: BEP, WAL, FIN	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. <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				