

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1916

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 16 2025

RE: H.C.R. No. 40

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Water and Land, to which was referred
H.C.R. No. 40 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND
AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND OTHER STATE AGENCIES TO WORK WITH
COMMITTED COMMUNITY GROUPS TO CO-STEWARD COMMUNITY FORESTS
LOCATED ON PUBLIC LANDS FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE STATE'S
FORESTS AND COMMUNITIES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to urge the
Department of Land and Natural Resources and other state agencies
to work with committed community groups to co-steward community
forests located on public lands for the betterment of the State's
forests and communities.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Kua'āina Ulu
'Auamo, Hawai'i Food+ Policy, and Hawai'i Forest Industry
Association.

Your Committee finds that trees and community forests provide
significant health, environmental, and economic benefits for the
State's residents and visitors. Your Committee further finds that
the State manages over seven hundred thousand acres of public
forest reserve lands, in addition to other public lands with trees
and community forests, including state parks, school campuses, and
transit corridors. Your Committee also finds that active



co-stewardship of community forests between the State and the people of Hawaii will improve the State's communities and community forests. This measure requests the Department of Land and Natural Resources to collaborate with committed community groups to co-steward community forests located on public lands for the betterment of the State's forests and communities.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water and Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 40, and recommends its adoption.

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


LORRAINE R. INOUE, Chair



