

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 14 2025

RE: S.B. No. 1146  
S.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Higher Education and Water and Land, to which was referred S.B. No. 1146 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE ALA WAI CANAL,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate funds to the University of Hawaii to:

- (1) Develop an action plan and pre-engineering concept plan to help with debris management and quality control issues in the Ala Wai watershed; and
- (2) Establish two graduate assistant positions to assist with the action plan and pre-engineering concept plan.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, University of Hawai'i System, and numerous individuals.

Your Committees find that floating debris in the Ala Wai Canal has been a persistent problem, harming recreational users and the State's aquatic and nearshore habitats. Your Committees further find that restoration efforts generally occur on the makai side of the Ala Wai Canal. However, heavy rain events further inland cause debris from streams and tributaries to wash into the canal. Your Committees also find that the University of Hawaii



possesses the expertise to assist the Division of Ocean and Boating Recreation of the Department of Land and Natural Resources with debris management and water quality control in the Ala Wai watershed. This measure appropriates funds to the University of Hawaii to develop plans to holistically address the challenges facing the Ala Wai Canal and watershed.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount; and
- (2) Inserting an effective date of July 31, 2050, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Higher Education and Water and Land that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1146, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1146, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Higher Education  
and Water and Land,

  
LORRAINE R. INOUE, Chair

  
DONNA MERCADO KIM, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-Third Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Higher Education**  
**HRE**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
<b>SB 1146</b>	<b>HRE/WTL, WAM</b>	<b>2/12/2025</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KIM, Donna Mercado (C)	✓			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol	✓			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>			
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution:             Original     Yellow     Pink     Goldenrod File with Committee Report     Clerk's Office     Drafting Agency     Committee File Copy				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate  
 Thirty-Third Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Water and Land**  
**WTL**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB 1146</b>	Committee Referral: <b>HRE/WTL, WAM</b>	Date: <b>02/12/25</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
INOUE, Lorraine R. (C)	✓			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C. (VC)	✓			
CHANG, Stanley	✓			
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K.				✓
DECORTE, Samantha	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution:             Original     Yellow     Pink     Goldenrod File with Committee Report     Clerk's Office     Drafting Agency     Committee File Copy				

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