

Honolulu, Hawaii

**FEB 11 2025**

RE: S.B. No. 151  
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 Hawaiian Affairs and Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 151 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Appropriate funds to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to continue geophysical data collection, investigation, exploration, and identification of geothermal resources on Hawaiian home lands; and
- (2) Authorize the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to hire consultants.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, Hawaiian Electric, Ulupono Initiative, and three individuals.

Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committees find that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, under the governance of the Hawaiian Homes Commission,



through its Geothermal Permitted Interaction Group, continues to investigate the viability of geothermal production on Hawaiian Home Lands. The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands continuously seeks guidance from geothermal specialists to assist in its efforts to commercialize geothermal resources on Hawaiian Home Lands. This measure will appropriate funds to continue this work and expand the use of renewable energy resources in the State.

Your Committees note that pursuant to the discussion between your Committees and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands during the public hearing on this measure, the recommendation that a permitted interaction group be established to study, evaluate, and recommend strategies related to geothermal exploration, feasibility, extraction, and use on Hawaiian Home Lands should be adopted.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding language to establish a permitted interaction group to study, evaluate, and recommend strategies related to geothermal exploration, feasibility, extraction, and use on Hawaiian home lands;
- (2) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (3) Inserting an effective date of July 31, 2050, to encourage further discussion;
- (4) Amending section 1 to reflect its amended purpose; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

Your Committees note that this measure, as amended, contains an unspecified appropriation amount. Should your Committee on Ways and Means choose to deliberate on this measure, your Committees respectfully requests that it consider inserting an appropriation amount of \$20,000,000 to continue geophysical data collection, investigation, exploration, and identification of geothermal resources on Hawaiian home lands.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Hawaiian Affairs and Energy and Intergovernmental



Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 151, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 151, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Hawaiian Affairs  
and Energy and  
Intergovernmental Affairs,



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GLENN WAKAI, Chair



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HERBERT RICHARDS, Chair



**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Hawaiian Affairs**  
**HWN**

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs**  
**EIG**

**\*Only one Governor's Message per Record of Votes**