

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1396

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 31 2025

RE: S.C.R. No. 42
S.D. 1

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
S.C.R. No. 42 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND
AND NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE TO
PRIORITIZE THE RESTORATION AND PROTECTION OF ADDITIONAL
WETLANDS AND ANCHIALINE POOLS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to urge the
Division of Forestry and Wildlife to prioritize the restoration
and protection of additional wetlands and anchialine pools.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Hawai'i Reef and
Ocean Coalition, Maui Ocean Center, and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the protection and restoration of
wetlands helps enhance wildfire and drought resistance; reduces
the magnitude of floods; and provides valuable habitats for flora,
fauna, and endangered species. Your Committee further finds that
without protection, the State's wetlands and anchialine pools are
at risk of degradation, threatening rare ecosystems and species.
This measure urges the Division of Forestry and Wildlife of the
Department of Land and Natural Resources to expand protections for
wetlands and anchialine pools to ensure that the State and its
residents will continue to benefit from them.



Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

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 S.C.R. No. 42, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 42, S.D. 1.

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


LORRAINE R. INOUE, Chair



