

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1274

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 24 , 2021

RE: H.C.R. No. 159

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2021
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Water & Land, to which was referred H.C.R. No. 159 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION STRONGLY URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO WORK WITH THE INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE ON UNDERWATER MUNITIONS' INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY BOARD ON UNDERWATER MUNITIONS TO SEEK AND SECURE FEDERAL FUNDING FOR THE NON-DESTRUCTIVE DISPOSAL OF THOUSANDS OF TONS OF UNDERWATER MUNITIONS DUMPED, LOST, OR ABANDONED IN HAWAIIAN WATERS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to urge the Department of Land and Natural Resources to work with the International Dialogue on Underwater Munitions' International Scientific and Technology Advisory Board on Underwater Munitions to seek and secure federal funding for the non-destructive disposal of thousands of tons of underwater munitions dumped, lost, or abandoned in Hawaiian waters.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Kauai Women's Caucus, International Dialogue on Underwater Munitions, and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that decaying underwater munitions, including unexploded ordnance, pose a threat to the health and

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safety of humans and marine life. Your Committee further finds that coordinated efforts are needed to safely dispose of underwater munitions abandoned in Hawaiian waters while ensuring the protection of the corals and sea life and prevention of harmful algae blooms.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 159 and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

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



DAVID A. TARNAS, Chair



