

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 18 2022

RE: H.B. No. 1577
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2022
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Water and Land and Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 1577, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE KAHOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Appropriate funds for the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission; and
- (2) Fund two full-time equivalent positions for the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission, County of Maui Planning Department, one member of the Maui County Council, Pacific American Foundation, and Ke Kai O Kuloloi'a, and twenty-one individuals. Your Committees received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committees find that the island of Kahoolawe provides cultural and historic significance to the people of Hawaii,



including Native Hawaiians. Following the conclusion of the United States Navy's unexploded ordnance cleanup in 2004, the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission has undertaken a significant task to stem erosion and further degradation of the Kahoolawe Island Reserve. Numerous restoration projects of the Kahoolawe Island Reserve, financed by state funds and various grant opportunities, have made significant changes toward transforming the desolate hardpan into vibrant living landscapes.

Despite the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission's work to restore Kahoolawe and its natural resources, the Commission is experiencing budgetary constraints that limit its ability to carry out its efforts. While the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission has a strong volunteer workforce to assist with native out plantings, erosion control construction, and invasive weed eradication, the lack of permanent full-time equivalent positions to assist with the Commission's mission has created more challenges to restoration of Kahoolawe. Recent unpredictable and severe weather events and ocean conditions have halted volunteer participation in restoration projects. As the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission relies on its strong volunteer force to expand restoration efforts to create more native dryland forest habitats, expanded beach restoration, shoreline protection efforts, food sustainability, and on-island water generation, this measure appropriates funds to the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission to continue its mission and restorative efforts of Kahoolawe.

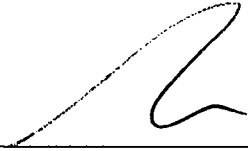
Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2022; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

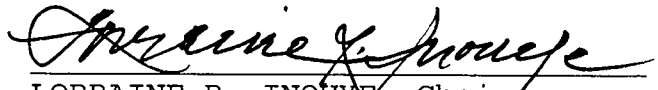
As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Water and Land and Hawaiian Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1577, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1577, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Water and Land
and Hawaiian Affairs,



MAILE S.L. SHIMABUKURO, Chair



LORRAINE R. INOUE, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-First Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
HWN

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB 1577, HD1	Committee Referral: <i>[Signature]</i> WTL/HWN, WAM	Date: 3/15/22		
<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
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L. (C)	/			
KEOHOKALOOLE, Jarrett (VC)	/			
ACASIO, Laura	/			
IHARA, Jr., Les	/			
FEVELLA, Kurt	/			
TOTAL	5	-	-	-
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>[Signature]</i>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes