

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 4055

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 22 2022

RE: H.C.R. No. 36

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Higher Education and Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred H.C.R. No. 36 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO WORK WITH THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION AND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CREATE A CORAL REEF ADVISORY TEAM OF YOUTH,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the University of Hawaii to work with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Department of Education to create a Coral Reef Advisory Team of Youth.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association, University of Hawai'i System, Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition, Friends of Hanauma Bay, and three individuals.

Your Committees find that coral reefs are some of the most diverse ecosystems in the world, with about twenty-five percent of the ocean's fish dependent on healthy coral reefs. Coral reefs additionally protect coastlines from storms and erosion, provide a source of food and new medicines, and offer opportunities for recreation. Your Committees note that Hawaii's coral reefs account for about eighty-five percent of all coral reefs in the United States, and the Northwestern Hawaiian Island coral reefs, which are part of the Papahānaumokuākea National Marine Monument,

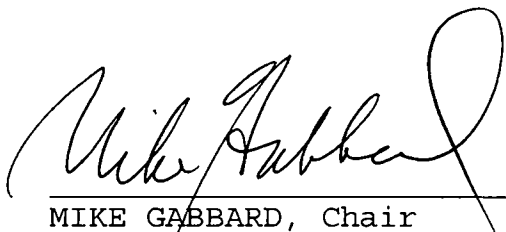


provide an example of the diversity of life associated with shallow-water reef ecosystems, supporting more than seven thousand species of fishes, invertebrates, plants, sea turtles, birds, and marine mammals.

Your Committees further find that the threat of climate change continues to impact coral reefs worldwide, including Hawaii's unique coral reef ecosystem, as increased temperature stress leads to coral bleaching, a phenomenon that causes coral to lose the algal symbionts living within their cells. While corals are able to recover from bleaching events under improving conditions, full recovery of coral reefs can take many years for ecosystems to fully heal. Implementing educational initiatives will allow more youth to understand the importance of coral reefs and ecosystem restoration, which are critical to Hawaii's marine life.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Higher Education and Agriculture and Environment that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 36, and recommend its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Higher Education  
and Agriculture and  
Environment,

  
MIKE GABBARD, Chair

  
DONNA MERCADO KIM, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-First Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

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

Bill / Resolution No.:* <i>HCR 36</i>	Committee Referral: <i>HRE/AEN</i>	Date: <i>4/19/22</i>
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The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.  
 If so, then the previous decision was to: \_\_\_\_\_

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312     
  Pass, with amendments 2311     
  Hold 2310     
  Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KIM, Donna Mercado (C)	✓			
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)	✓			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn				✓
FEVELLA, Kurt				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	<i>3</i>			<i>2</i>

Recommendation:     
 Adopted     
 Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:  
*Michelle N. Kidani*

**Distribution:**

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\*Only one measure per Record of Votes

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Agriculture and Environment**  
**AEN**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HCR 30	HRE/AEN	04/19/2022		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312				
<input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311				
<input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310				
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
GABBARD, Mike (C)	/			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K. (VC)	/			
ACASIO, Laura	/			
RHOADS, Karl	/			
FEVELLA, Kurt				/
<b>TOTAL</b>	4	—	—	1
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted				
<input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
<i>Clarence K. Nishihara</i>				
Distribution:				
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