

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 04 2023

RE: S.C.R. No. 229

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2023
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Water and Land, to which was referred
S.C.R. No. 229 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF
LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE MARINE
LIFE CONSERVATION DISTRICT DESIGNATIONS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the
Department of Land and Natural Resources to conduct a study on the
Marine Life Conservation District designations.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this
measure from the Ocean Tourism Coalition. Your Committee received
comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural
Resources.

Your Committee finds that in response to the excessive taking
of fish in coastal waters, the Legislature enacted Act 192,
Session Laws of Hawaii 1955, to allow for the creation of Marine
Life Conservation Districts (MLCDs) that help conserve and
replenish marine resources by limiting fishing and prohibiting
certain uses entirely. Your Committee further finds that there
are currently ten MLCDs throughout the State, each with unique
rules and regulations, and that an assessment would help inform
whether additional or more uniform protections are necessary.
Therefore, this measure requests the Department of Land and
Natural Resources to study the effectiveness of MLCDs in carrying



out their purpose and how MLCDs compare to other International Union for Conservation of Nature protected areas.

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. 229 and recommends its adoption.

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


LORRAINE R. INOUE, Chair



