

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

734

Honolulu, Hawaii

, 2023

FEB 17

RE: H.B. No. 181

H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2023
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, to which was referred H.B. No. 181, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CESSPOOLS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to implement the recommendation of the Cesspool Conversion Working Group to accelerate the dates for required upgrades, conversions, or connections of priority level 1 cesspools and priority level 2 cesspools by requiring:

- (1) Priority level 1 cesspools to be upgraded, converted, or connected before January 1, 2030; and
- (2) Priority level 2 cesspools to be upgraded, converted, or connected before January 1, 2035.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Health; Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Hawai'i Green Infrastructure Authority; Department of Environmental Management of the County of Hawai'i; WAI: Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Friends of Hanauma Bay; Surfrider Foundation, Hawai'i Region; Kingdom Pathways; and six individuals. Your Committee received

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testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS.

Your Committee finds that cesspools are a major source of pollution to Hawaii's waters. Cesspools discharge untreated sewage, which may reach the groundwater and flow into drinking water sources, streams, and the ocean. Since approximately ninety-five percent of all drinking water in the State comes from groundwater sources, these discharges pose a serious risk of harm to public health and the environment.

Your Committee further finds that the Legislature, through Act 125, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017, mandated the upgrade or conversion of all cesspools in the State to certain wastewater management systems or connection to a sewerage system by 2050. However, the Cesspool Conversion Working Group, established by Act 132, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, recommended an accelerated conversion for those cesspools that pose greater environmental risk. This measure implements that recommendation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 181, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Consumer
Protection & Commerce,



MARK M. NAKASHIMA, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Thirty-second Legislature

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Record of Votes of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Bill/Resolution No.: <i>HB 181, HD1</i>	Committee Referral: <i>EEP/WAL, CPC, FIN</i>	Date: <i>02-15-23</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
CPC Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. NAKASHIMA, Mark M. (C)	/			
2. SAYAMA, Jackson D. (VC)	/			
3. AMATO, Terez	/			
4. BELATTI, Della Au	/			
5. HASHEM, Mark J.	/			
6. HUSSEY-BURDICK, Natalia	/			
7. GATES, Cedric Asuega				/
8. LOWEN, Nicole E.	/			
9. ONISHI, Richard H.K.	/			
10. TAM, Adrian K.	/			
11. PIERICK, Elijah			/	
TOTAL (11)	9		1	1
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <small>committee acronym(s)</small>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: <i>John Sym</i>				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				