

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 18 2024

RE: H.C.R. No. 198
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2024
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Water and Land and Transportation and Culture and the Arts, to which was referred H.C.R. No. 198 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE STATE'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO ADVOCATE FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF EXISTING INTERNATIONAL LAWS TO REDUCE GHOST NETS ENTERING THE STATE FROM INTERNATIONAL WATERS AND TAKE OTHER ACTIONS TO REDUCE MARINE DEBRIS FROM FISHING GEAR,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the State's congressional delegation to:

- (1) Advocate for the enforcement of existing international laws to reduce ghost nets entering the State from international waters;
- (2) Advocate for the establishment of a requirement for United States fishing vessels to mark their fishing gear; and
- (3) Create financial incentives to retrieve and dispose of floating fishing gear.



Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Friends of Hanauma Bay, and one individual.

Your Committees find that discarded or lost fishing nets in the ocean, otherwise known as ghost nets, regularly wash in from international waters to the reefs of Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, causing harm to the reef and marine wildlife. Your Committees further find that the International Law of the Sea allows states to take action against vessels entering their ports if there is evidence that they have abandoned or negligently lost fishing gear, although gear is not marked in a way as to trace ownership. Your Committees conclude that Hawaii's congressional delegation should advocate for the enforcement of existing international law and the establishment of new requirements and financial incentives to reduce the number of ghost nets entering Hawaiian waters.

Your Committees have amended this measure by 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 Transportation and Culture and the Arts that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 198, as amended herein, and recommend its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 198, S.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Water and Land
and Transportation and Culture
and the Arts,



CHRIS LEE, Chair



LORRAINE R. INOUE, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Second Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

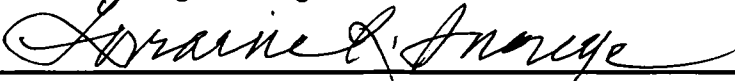
Record of Votes
Committee on Water and Land
WTL

Bill / Resolution No.:* HCR 198	Committee Referral: WTL / TCA	Date: 04/08/24		
<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
INOUYE, Lorraine R. (C)	✓			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C. (VC)	✓			
CHANG, Stanley	✓			
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K.	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
TOTAL	5	0	0	0
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

***Only one measure per Record of Votes**

The Senate
 Thirty-Second Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts
TCA

Bill / Resolution No.:* HCR 198	Committee Referral: WTL/TCA	Date: 4-8-2024		
<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
LEE, Chris (C)	✓			
INOUYE, Lorraine R. (VC)	✓			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	✓			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	✓			
AWA, Brenton				✓
TOTAL	4			1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

***Only one measure per Record of Votes**