

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 12 2024

RE: S.B. No. 2143

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 Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 2143 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to make an appropriation for the Wildfire Management Branch of the Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Forestry and Wildlife to support nonprofit organizations that specialize in wildfire preparedness and mitigation programming through grant disbursements.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Honolulu Fire Department, County of Maui Department of Fire and Public Safety, The Nature Conservancy, and one individual.

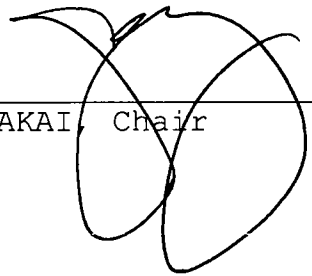
Your Committees find that although wildfires pose serious and far-reaching threats in the State, the Wildfire Management Branch of the Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Forestry and Wildlife is severely underfunded and understaffed. Consequently, the Wildfire Management Branch funds and works with the nonprofit, Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization, to provide programming for the State's wildfire preparedness needs. However, wildfire prevention nonprofits cannot rely on funding annually



from the Wildfire Management Branch or from federal grants. This measure will bolster the State's wildfire preparedness by securing funds for the Wildfire Management Branch of the Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Forestry and Wildlife.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Water and Land and Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2143 and recommend that it pass Second Reading 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 Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs,



GLENN WAKAI, Chair



LORRAINE R. INOUE, Chair

The Senate
 Thirty-Second Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
PSM

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 2143	Committee Referral: WTL/PSM, WAM	Date: 2/7/24		
<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 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
WAKAI, Glenn (C)	✓			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C. (VC)	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol	✓			
RHOADS, Karl	✓			
AWA, Brenton	✓			
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