

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **83**

Honolulu, Hawaii

**FEB 08 2023**

RE: S.B. No. 376  
S.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Agriculture and Environment and Water and Land, to which was referred S.B. No. 376 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to prohibit the mining, extraction, and removal of minerals from the seabed in all state marine waters.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Hawai'i Reef Ocean Coalition, Parley for the Oceans, and five individuals.

Your Committees find that seabed mining poses an unacceptably high risk of damage and disruption to the State's marine environment and the globally significant ecosystems that host thousands of species, including protected and endangered species. Your Committees also recognize that seabed mining and related industries can threaten ocean-dependent industries, such as commercial and recreational fishing and tourism. Your Committees find seabed mining to be inconsistent with the public interest of the State, therefore this measure will prohibit any such related-activity from occurring in state marine waters.

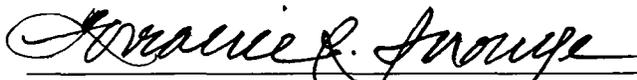
Your Committees have amended this measure by:



- (1) Inserting recommended language from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs that protects privileges and practices of Native Hawaiians; and
- (2) 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 Agriculture and Environment and Water and Land that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 376, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 376, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Agriculture and  
Environment and Water and Land,

  
LORRAINE R. INOUE, Chair

  
MIKE GABBARD, Chair





The Senate  
 Thirty-Second Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Water and Land**  
**WTL**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB 376</b>	Committee Referral: <b>AEN / WTL, JDC</b>	Date: <b>02/03/23</b>		
<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	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
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