

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3472

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 03 2024

RE: S.C.R. No. 123
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 Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs, to which was referred S.C.R. No. 123 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON SOLUTIONS TO REDUCE WILDFIRE RISK AND THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM AS IT RELATES TO LANDOWNERS AND PUBLIC UTILITIES,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the Department of Land and Natural Resources to convene a working group to make recommendations on solutions to reduce wildfire risk and the feasibility of establishing a vegetation management program as it relates to landowners and public utilities.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from Hawaiian Electric, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1260, and one individual.

Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Consumer Advocacy of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, and Public Utilities Commission.



Your Committees find that the Wildfire Prevention Working Group found that guinea grass, fountain grass, molasses grass, and buffelgrass can form continuous fuel beds, ignite easily, attain extremely high fine fuel loads, and are capable of growing back more vigorously in the post-fire environment than the majority of native vegetation. Your Committees further find that a significant portion of public and private lands are covered in unmanaged grasses, trees, and other vegetation that may pose a wildfire risk. Your Committees believe that vegetation management is essential for the mitigation of wildfire risks and the promotion of safer conditions for the State's communities and environment.

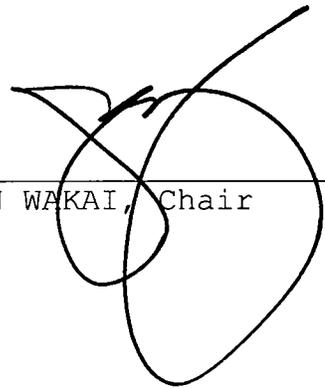
Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting that the working group include:
 - (A) A representative of the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources;
 - (B) A representative of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 1260; and
 - (C) One member representing the telecommunications industry, to be invited by the chairperson of the working group; 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 Water and Land and Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 123, as amended herein, and recommend its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 123, S.D. 1.



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 Water and Land
WTL

Bill / Resolution No.:* <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">SCR 123</div>	Committee Referral: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">WTL/PSM</div>	Date: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">3/27/24</div>		
<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
INOUE, Lorraine R. (C)	✓			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C. (VC)	✓			
CHANG, Stanley	✓			
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K.	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
TOTAL	5	ϕ	ϕ	ϕ
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**

