

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3500

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 03 2024

RE: S.C.R. No. 151

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred S.C.R. No. 151 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS TO EXPAND BLUE CARBON INITIATIVES IN THE STATE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request:

- (1) The Office of Planning and Sustainable Development convene a working group to develop recommendations to expand blue carbon initiatives in the State;
- (2) The working group consider certain issues relevant for evaluating the potential of blue carbon projects to enhance the State's climate change mitigation and clean economy goals; and
- (3) The working group submit a report of its findings and recommendations on blue carbon initiatives to the Legislature before the Regular Session of 2025.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Democratic Party of Hawai'i and two individuals.

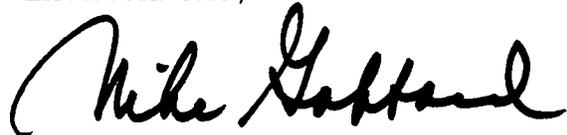


Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, Hawaii State Energy Office, CARES, and one individual.

Your Committee finds that certain marine and coastal ecosystems sequester carbon dioxide and that the conservation and restoration of these blue carbon ecosystems have been recognized as effective nature-based solutions for mitigating greenhouse gas emissions. This measure seeks to maximize the benefits of local blue carbon initiatives to help the State meet its climate change mitigation and clean energy economy goals.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture and Environment that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 151 and recommends its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Agriculture and  
Environment,



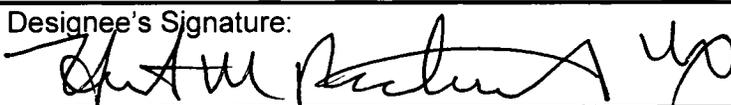
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MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-Second Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes  
 Committee on Agriculture and Environment  
 AEN

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SCR 151	AEN	4/11/2024		
<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 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
GABBARD, Mike (C)	<del>X</del>			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (VC)	<del>X</del>			
DECOITE, Lynn				X
RHOADS, Karl	X			
AWA, Brenton				X
<b>TOTAL</b>	3	0	0	2
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original     Yellow     Pink     Goldenrod File with Committee Report     Clerk's Office     Drafting Agency     Committee File Copy				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes