

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **3445**

Honolulu, Hawaii

**APR 03 2024**

RE: S.R. No. 115

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.R. No. 115 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION URGING EVERY STATE AGENCY THAT MONITORS ENVIRONMENTAL TOXINS AND POLLUTANTS TO FOLLOW CERTAIN PROCEDURAL AND SUBSTANTIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MODIFICATIONS OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION LEVELS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to urge every state agency that monitors environmental toxins and pollutants to:

- (1) Follow certain procedural and substantive requirements for the establishment and modification of environmental action levels (EALs);
- (2) Allow any resident of the State to petition for modifications of one or more EALs or similar triggering mechanisms for environmental toxins and pollutants monitored by the state agency; and
- (3) Promptly respond to a petition to modify an EAL in the manner provided by chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

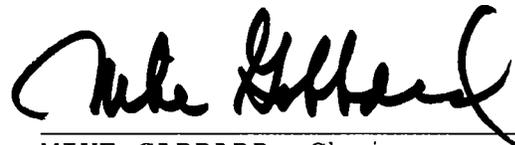
Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i and one individual.



Your Committee finds that the use of environmental action levels (EALs) can be beneficial for monitoring and regulating environmental pollution. However, because there is currently no standardized or formal process for the establishment or amendment for EALs in the State, some state agencies that use EALs have been known to arbitrarily raise, or in some cases lower, an EAL without sufficient public notice or scientific justification. This measure supports the health of the public and the environment by urging the adoption of certain procedural and substantive requirements to provide transparency and accountability for any establishment and revision of EALs in the State.

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.R. No. 115 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.:* <b>SR 115</b>	Committee Referral: <b>AEN</b>	Date: <b>3/27/24</b>
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The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.  
 If so, then the previous decision was to: \_\_\_\_\_

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312       Pass, with amendments 2311       Hold 2310       Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
GABBARD, Mike (C)	✓			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (VC)				✓
DECOITE, Lynn	✓			
RHOADS, Karl	✓			
AWA, Brenton				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>

Recommendation:       Adopted       Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature: *Karl Rhoads*

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\*Only one measure per Record of Votes