

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **3589**

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 03 2024

RE: S.R. No. 204

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Government Operations, to which was referred S.R. No. 204 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION URGING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO REIMBURSE HAWAII FOR DEBRIS REMOVAL, THE DREDGING OF TOXIC MATERIALS, AND OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP EFFORTS IN LAHAINA HARBOR,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to urge the federal government to reimburse Hawaii for the removal of debris, dredging of toxic materials, and other environmental cleanup efforts in Lahaina Harbor.

Your Committee did not receive any testimony on this measure.

Your Committee finds that Lahaina Harbor's waters are inundated with debris and toxic chemicals resulting from the August 2023 Maui wildfires. Your Committee also recognizes the concerns raised during the public hearing for this measure that failure to engage in the environmental cleanup of Lahaina Harbor now with federal funds could have greater impacts later on. Accordingly, this measure will help the State offset the high costs of recovery as the County of Maui continues to rebuild.

Your Committee notes that, in meeting with the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), it was represented that a request for reimbursement of the cost for debris removal was denied by the federal government; however, the Federal Emergency



Management Agency (FEMA), in response to subsequent inquiries, responded that it never received such a request from DLNR and is open to it. Your Committee hopes that DLNR and FEMA will come to the table to discuss this matter before subsequent deliberations of this measure, as there is a time limit to request federal funds for this important cleanup.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Government Operations that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 204 and recommends its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Government
Operations,



ANGUS L.K. MCKELVEY, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Second Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Government Operations
GVO

Bill / Resolution No.:* <i>SR 204</i>	Committee Referral: <i>GVO</i>	Date: <i>March 28, 2024</i>		
<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
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K. (C)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)	✓			
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn				✓
AWA, Brenton				✓
TOTAL	<i>3</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>2</i>
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**