STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1078 -24

Honolulu, Hawaii MAR 14 , <sup>2024</sup>

RE: S.B. No. 2575 H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki Speaker, House of Representatives Thirty-Second State Legislature Regular Session of 2024 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, to which was referred S.B. No. 2575 entitled:

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

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to prohibit the:

- Mining, extraction, and removal of minerals from the seabed in all state marine waters, with certain exemptions; and
- (2) Issuance of any permit for or in connection with the development or operation of any facility or infrastructure associated with the mining, extraction, or removal of minerals from the seabed within state marine waters.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Sustainable Ocean Alliance Hawai'i; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Parley for the Oceans, Hawai'i; Hawai'i Youth Climate Coalition; Hawai'i Wildlife Fund; Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea; Deep Sea Mining Campaign; 350Hawaii.org; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Rev Ocean; Friends of Hanauma Bay; FutureSwell; Marine Conservation Institute; Kauai



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Women's Caucus; Hawai'i's Thousand Friends; Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i; National Parks Conservation Association; Oceanic Preservation Society; Surfrider Foundation, Hawai'i Region; Blue Climate Initiative; Tetiaroa Society; Benioff Ocean Science Laboratory; The Marine Mammal Center; The Ocean Foundation; Greenpeace Hawaii; HULI PAC; Te Ipukarea Society; Intemerate Earth; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; For the Fishes; The Nature Conservancy; Americans for Democratic Action; Keiko Conservation; Fair Wind Cruises; and numerous individuals.

Your Committee finds that seabed mineral mining threatens the health of the State's marine ecosystems. This measure prohibits the mining, extraction, and removal of minerals from the seabed in all state marine waters, with certain exemptions, thereby taking a cautionary approach similar to other states, in weighing the costs and benefits of the potential extraction of natural resources.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2575, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2575, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

> Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection,

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NICOLE E. LOWEN, Chair

2024-2259 SB2575 HD1 HSCR HMSO

State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Thirty-second Legislature



## Record of Votes of the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

Bill/Resolution No.: 5B 2575 EEP	e Referral:	IN Date	3/10	10M
3B 2575 EEP, WAL, FIN 3/2/24   The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure. 3/2/24				
The recommendation is to:      Pass, unamended (as is)     Pass, with amendments (HD)     Hold     Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
EEP Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. LOWEN, Nicole E. (C)				
2. COCHRAN, Elle (VC)				
3. GATES, Cedric Asuega				
		With the second s		
4. KAHALOA, Kirstin				
5. PERRUSO, Amy A.				
	V			
6. WOODSON, Justin H.				
7. WARD, Gene				
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TOTAL (7)				3
The recommendation is: Adopted D Not Adopted If joint referral, did not support recommendation.				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				