

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

713

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 14 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 1318
H.D. 2

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Water & Land, to which was referred H.B. No. 1318, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Remove from the definition of "public lands" lands set aside by the Governor to the counties for the purpose of affordable housing; and
- (2) Specify that lands set aside by the Governor to the counties for affordable housing require legislative approval for the sale or gift of the lands.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation; Kaua'i County Housing Agency; and two individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Your Committee finds that the State is facing an ongoing housing crisis. Your Committee further finds that although the Governor set aside cooperatively identified state-owned residential parcels to the counties for the purpose of developing

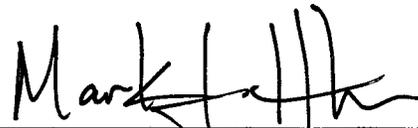


affordable housing, the counties have been unable to productively develop these parcels as existing statutes require the counties to seek the Board of Land and Natural Resources' approval for many actions relating to these lands, including leases, mortgages, easements, and rights of entry. Your Committee believes that removing these lands from the definition of "public lands" will reduce procedural burdens while also ensuring that valuable state lands may be productively utilized for the development of much needed affordable housing.

Your Committee has amended this measure by requiring lands set aside by the Governor to the counties for the development of affordable housing to be managed by the counties pursuant to the same public trust fiduciary duties and obligations of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1318, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1318, H.D. 2.

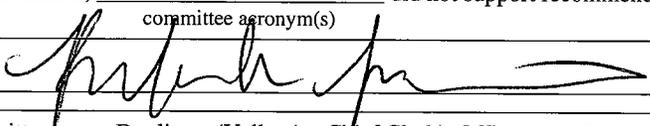
Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Water & Land,



MARK J. HASSEM, Chair



Record of Votes of the Committee on Water & Land

Bill/Resolution No.: HB1318, HD1		Committee Referral: HSG, WAL, FIN		Date: 2/13/2025	
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.					
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)					
WAL Members		Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. HASHEM, Mark J. (C)		✓			
2. LAMOSAO, Rachele F. (VC)		✓			
3. BELATTI, Della Au		✓			
4. ICHIYAMA, Linda		✓			
5. IWAMOTO, Kim Coco		✓			
6. MORIKAWA, Dee		✓			
7. POEPOE, Mahina					✓
8. WOODSON, Justin H.					✓
9. SHIMIZU, Garner M.		✓			
10. SOUZA, Kanani		✓			
TOTAL (10)		8	0	0	2
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <small>committee acronym(s)</small>					
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: 					
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO					