

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

18

Honolulu, Hawaii

JAN 30 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 505

H.D. 1

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. 505 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RED HILL,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a Red Hill Water Alliance Initiative (WAI) policy coordinator to coordinate WAI initiatives across state and county agencies and appropriate federal entities; and
- (2) Establish the Red Hill Remediation Special Fund.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; University of Hawai'i System; Honolulu Board of Water Supply; Coalition Earth; Ka Lahui Hawai'i; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hui Malama Pono Hawaii; Mala Hanai Pua LLC; Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; The Queens Court; and numerous individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance.

2025-1124 HB505 HD1 HSCR HMSO



Your Committee finds that the State has an affirmative duty to preserve and protect public trust resources, including water resources. Your Committee further finds that future access to clean drinking water on the island of Oahu has been seriously imperiled after fuel releases at the United States Navy's Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility contaminated the aquifer located beneath the facility.

As a response to the Red Hill crisis, representatives from the State and the City and County of Honolulu issued a unified statement and created the WAI working group to identify an approach to ensure clean water for current and future residents of Oahu. In November 2023, the WAI published a public, final report setting forth its findings and recommendations for the remediation needs for the future well-being of Oahu's aquifers and clean water sources, water distribution system, and the overall ecosystem, including springs, streams, and nearshore waters. While some of these recommendations can only be carried out by the federal government, other recommendations can be undertaken by the State or the City and County of Honolulu.

Your Committee believes that there should be no delay in taking steps to implement the WAI's recommendations that can be executed by the State and county. This measure is intended to protect the future of Oahu's clean water by establishing a WAI policy coordinator to ensure remediation efforts are appropriately coordinated between the State, City and County of Honolulu, and any appropriate federal entity.

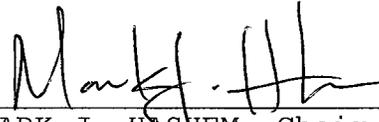
Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) 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 Water & Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 505, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 505, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection.



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



MARK J. HASHEM, Chair



Record of Votes of the Committee on Water & Land

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 505	Committee Referral: WAL, BEP, FIN	Date: 11/28/2025		
<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)	9	0	0	1
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				