

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1213

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 21 2025

RE: H.B. No. 506
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Water and Land, to which was referred H.B. No. 506, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CONSERVATION ENFORCEMENT,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate funds for equipment for the Oahu Branch of the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i and Palmyra; Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo; Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea; Na Kama Kai; Hawai'i Ocean Legislative Task Force; Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition; and eighteen individuals.

Your Committee finds that robust populations of coral reef herbivores are essential to restoring and preserving the State's precious coral reefs. Your Committee further finds that the populations of herbivorous fishes around Oahu are the lowest in the State. Your Committee also finds that although the Department of Land and Natural Resources adopted rules in December 2023 to protect herbivorous fish populations in the State, it has been difficult to enforce these rules around Oahu because the Oahu Branch of the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement



(DOCARE) is not adequately staffed or equipped. Accordingly, this measure will ensure that the Oahu Branch of the Division of Conservative and Resource Enforcement is well-equipped to protect herbivorous fish populations around the island of Oahu.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2040, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Water and Land that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 506, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 506, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

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


LORRAINE R. INOUE, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Third Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Water and Land
WTL

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB 506 HDI	WTL, WAM	03/14/25		
<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 type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
INOUE, Lorraine R. (C)	✓			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C. (VC)	✓			
CHANG, Stanley	✓			
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K.				✓
DECORTE, Samantha	✓			
TOTAL	4	0	0	1
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