

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

99

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 04 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 734

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 Energy & Environmental Protection, to which was referred H.B. No. 734 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WASTEWATER SYSTEMS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Require the Department of Health, in consultation with appropriate agencies and professionals, to review rules and practices and propose changes that have the potential to make wastewater systems and cesspool upgrades more affordable without compromising water quality; and
- (2) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health; Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program; Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Public Access to SunScreens Coalition; Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition; Coral Reef Alliance; WAI: Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations; Hawai'i Wai Ola; The Nature Conservancy Hawai'i and Palmyra; and four individuals.

2025-1255 HB734 HD1 HSCR HMSO



Your Committee finds that cesspools in the State are a serious environmental and public health issue. This measure addresses cesspool pollution and explores additional pathways toward cesspool upgrade or conversion affordability without compromising water quality.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program from the list of entities with whom the Department of Health shall consult;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should is deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$150,000.

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 H.B. No. 734, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 734, 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



*HSR 99*

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

Bill/Resolution No.: <b>HB 134</b>	Committee Referral: <b>EEP, WAL, FIN</b>	Date: <b>1/30/25</b>
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The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.

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. PERRUSO, Amy A. (VC)	✓			
3. KAHALOA, Kirstin	✓			
4. KUSCH, Matthias	✓			
5. QUINLAN, Sean	✓			
6. WARD, Gene				✓
<b>TOTAL (6)</b>	<b>5</b>			<b>1</b>

The recommendation is:     Adopted     Not Adopted  
 If joint referral, \_\_\_\_\_ did not support recommendation.  
committee acronym(s)

Vice Chair's or designee's signature: *Amy Perruso*