

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

602

Honolulu, Hawaii

**FEB 14 2025**

RE: S.B. No. 1266  
S.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Water and Land and Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 1266 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO BURIAL SITES,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to create an inter-division program within the Department of Land and Natural Resources consisting of certain agencies to address the location of Hawaiian burial sites and save movement and restoration of iwi that are exposed or likely to be exposed due to coastal erosion.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committees find that sea level rise caused by climate change threatens to expose Hawaiian burial sites and the iwi interred therein. Your Committees further find that saving iwi that are exposed or at risk of exposure is necessary because these burial sites and iwi are vital parts of Hawaiian culture that serve as ancestral links to the past. This measure will provide the resources and coordination to effectively and proactively protect Hawaiian burial sites and iwi that are endangered by coastal erosion and climate change.

Your Committees note the concern raised by the Department of Land and Natural Resources regarding the proposed deadline of



twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2026 for the report.

Accordingly, you Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Extending the deadline of the report required by this measure to twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2027; and
- (2) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Water and Land and Hawaiian Affairs that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1266, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1266, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Water and Land  
and Hawaiian Affairs,

  
HERBERT M. RICHARDS, III, Chair

  
LORRAINE R. INOUE, Chair





The Senate  
Thirty-Third Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Hawaiian Affairs**  
**HWN**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB 1266</b>	Committee Referral: <b>NTL/HWN, WAM</b>	Date: <b>2/7/25</b>		
<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
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (C)	✓			
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A. (VC)				✓
IHARA, Jr., Les				✓
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett		✓		
DECORTE, Samantha	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>2</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original     Yellow     Pink     Goldenrod File with Committee Report     Clerk's Office     Drafting Agency     Committee File Copy				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes