

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1247

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 14 , 2025

RE: S.B. No. 639  
S.D. 1  
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 S.B. No. 639, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Clarify the level of environmental restoration that  
owners and operators of underground storage tanks or  
tank systems must satisfy in the event of a confirmed  
release of jet fuel; and
- (2) Establish a rebuttable presumption that any detection of  
these contaminants in the vicinity of an underground  
storage tank or a tank system after a confirmed release  
is a result of the confirmed release.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Honolulu Board of Water  
Supply; Ka Lāhui Hawai'i; Sierra Club of Hawai'i; Environmental  
Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; 350Hawaii.org; Hawai'i  
Reef and Ocean Coalition; Free Access Coalition; and numerous  
individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure  
from the Department of Health.



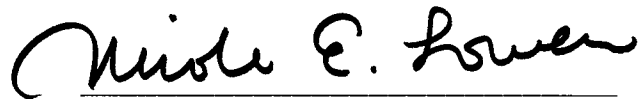
Your Committee finds that the contamination of groundwater and drinking water by jet fuel from underground storage tanks poses an unacceptable threat to public health and natural ecosystems. This measure ensures that any release of jet fuel is fully remediated with the goal of complete removal, safeguarding Hawaii's water resources for future generations.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that the cleanup and removal of jet fuel shall be to levels below the detection limits of the best and most sensitive technology and methods available, with the goal of complete remediation;
- (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.

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 S.B. No. 639, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 639, S.D. 1, 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,



NICOLE E. LOWEN, Chair



H502 1247

<b>Bill/Resolution No.:</b> <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">SB639, SD1</div>	<b>Committee Referral:</b> <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">EEP, WAL, JHA</div>	<b>Date:</b> <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">3/13/25</div>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
<b>The recommendation is to:</b> <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)				
<b>EEP Members</b>	<b>Ayes</b>	<b>Ayes (WR)</b>	<b>Nays</b>	<b>Excused</b>
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>	5			1
<b>The recommendation is:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">committee acronym(s)</div>				
<b>Vice Chair's or designee's signature:</b> _____ <div style="text-align: center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">Amy Perruso</div>				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original (White) – Committee      Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office      Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				