

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 14 2025

RE: S.B. No. 867
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 Housing and Water and Land, to which was referred S.B. No. 867 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish a working group within the Office of the Governor for administrative purposes to ascertain the State's available water resources and water system source capacity and to streamline well permit approval processes to further plan for the development of affordable housing;
- (2) Require the working group to inventory all available water resources statewide and identify sources of aquifer replenishment in relation to affordable housing development; and
- (3) Require an interim and final report to the Legislature.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation, Department of Water Supply of the County of Hawai'i, one member of the Hawai'i County Council, Honolulu Board of Water Supply, and one individual.



Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Department of Health.

Your Committees find that it is of paramount importance to protect the State's finite natural resources. Presently, development of potable water systems is a critical issue affecting housing development across the State. Further, the State is experiencing a severe housing shortage that is far outpaced by demand. As water resource availability is dependent on the timely establishment of advanced water conservation programs and water supply development, the State must ensure water availability for existing and new housing development projects. Therefore, this measure takes a proactive approach to conserving the State's natural resources while addressing water resources needed for housing development projects critical to alleviating the State's existing housing shortage.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding the Director of Health, or their designee, to the working group, rather than the Chief of the Department of Health Clean Water Branch; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Housing and Water and Land that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 867, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 867, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

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


LORRAINE R. INOUE, Chair


STANLEY CHANG, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Housing
HOU

Bill / Resolution No.:* <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">SB 867</div>	Committee Referral: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">HOU/WTL, WAM</div>	Date: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">2/7/25</div>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313 </div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
CHANG, Stanley (C)	/			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N. (VC)	/			
AQUINO, Henry J.C.				/
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	/			
FEVELLA, Kurt				/
TOTAL	3	2	2	2
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted </div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive; margin-left: 20px;">R. A.</div>				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Distribution:</div> <div>Original</div> <div>Yellow</div> <div>Pink</div> <div>Goldenrod</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em; margin-top: 2px;"> <div>File with Committee Report</div> <div>Clerk's Office</div> <div>Drafting Agency</div> <div>Committee File Copy</div> </div>				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

Record of Votes
Committee on Water and Land
WTL

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