

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1634

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 02 2025

RE: S.R. No. 127

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Transportation and Culture and the Arts and Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred S.R. No. 127 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION URGING THE STATE TO ADOPT THE AGREEMENT UNDER THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA ON THE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF MARINE BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF AREAS BEYOND NATIONAL JURISDICTION AND SUPPORT LEGISLATIVE, ADMINISTRATIVE, AND POLICY MEASURES TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT AT THE STATE AND COUNTY LEVELS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to urge the State to adopt the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction and support legislative, administrative, and policy measures to implement the Agreement at the State and county levels.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition and one individual.

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

Your Committees find that nearly two-thirds of the oceans are global commons. The majority of this natural resource therefore belongs to no one in particular but is the responsibility of all



to safeguard against threats such as climate change, pollution, and overuse. The Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction is an initiative offering measures to conserve vast geographical areas so that all may continue to benefit from their use, with a focus on marine genetic resources and their digital sequence information. This measure urges the State to adopt the Agreement and support legislative, administrative, and policy measures for its implementation to promote the conservation and sustainable use of valuable shared natural resources.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Transportation and Culture and the Arts and Agriculture and Environment that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 127 and recommend its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Transportation
and Culture and the Arts and
Agriculture and Environment,



MIKE GABBARD, Chair



CHRIS LEE, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Third Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts
TCA

Bill / Resolution No.:* SR 127	Committee Referral: TCA/AEN	Date: 03/31/25
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The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
 If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312
 Pass, with amendments 2311
 Hold 2310
 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
LEE, Chris (C)	✓			
INOUYE, Lorraine R. (VC)				✓
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	✓			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	✓			
DECORTE, Samantha	✓			
TOTAL	4	0	0	1

Recommendation:
 Adopted
 Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature: 

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***Only one measure per Record of Votes**

