

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 31 2025

RE: S.R. No. 92

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Agriculture and Environment, to which was referred S.R. No. 92 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION DECLARING A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COORDINATION TO IDENTIFY, PLAN FOR, AND CREATE CROSS-SECTOR SOLUTIONS TO STRENGTHEN HAWAII'S PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE TO THE CLIMATE CRISIS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Declare a public health emergency relating to climate change; and
- (2) Request statewide coordination to identify, plan for, and create cross-sector solutions to strengthen Hawaii's public health response to the climate crisis.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Agriculture, Life of the Land, Hawai'i Public Health Institute, Hawaii Climate Change and Health Working Group, Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, 350Hawaii.org, Coalition Earth, and fourteen individuals.

Your Committee finds that leading scientific and medical authorities, including the United Nations, World Health Organization, and American Public Health Association, have



identified climate change as a major public health crisis. Your Committee recognizes that although agencies overseeing land, water, agriculture, transportation, and emergency services may not typically see themselves as having a health-related mandate, their decisions on resource management, urban planning, and disaster preparedness directly shape community health outcomes. According to testimony received by your Committee, this measure fosters a cultural shift in which all agencies recognize how their policies and operations can either exacerbate or alleviate public health threats and builds on the State's established environmental commitments by explicitly addressing the human health dimension, ensuring that community well-being remains at the forefront of climate adaptation and resilience efforts.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Agriculture and Environment that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 92 and recommends its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Agriculture and  
Environment,



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MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirty-Third Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Agriculture and Environment**  
**AEN**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:	
SR92	AEN	03-17-25	
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313			
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay
GABBARD, Mike (C)	X		
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim" (VC)	X		
DECOITE, Lynn	X		
RHOADS, Karl	X		
AWA, Brenton			X
<b>TOTAL</b>	4		1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted			
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 			
Distribution:             Original             Yellow             Pink             Goldenrod File with Committee Report             Clerk's Office             Drafting Agency             Committee File Copy			

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes